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THE

# AMERICAN FARMER,



SPIRIT OF THE AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS OF THE DAY.

"O FORTUNATOS NIMIUM SUA SI BONA NORINT  
"AGRICOLAS." Virg.

Vol. I.

BALTIMORE, NOVEMBER, 1845.

No. 5

## THE AMERICAN FARMER

It is published Monthly, at \$1 per annum, IN ADVANCE—Advertisements, suited to the character of the paper, inserted at the rate of \$1 for each insertion of 12 lines or less, and in proportion for those of a larger size. Address (post paid) SAM'L SANDS, Publisher "American Farmer," N. E. corner of Baltimore & Charles sts. Baltimore, Md.

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### WORK FOR NOVEMBER.

We have now entered upon the last month of autumn, and it behooves us all to go into a full examination of what we have done, and what remains to be done; for it is only by such examinations that the prudent husbandman can *economise time*, keep the labor of his estate under his control, and save himself from that most embarrassing relation of a farmer, behind with his work—a relation which, above all others, tends to impede the road to success, and render exertion perplexing both to mind and body.—With this admonition against the impolicy of permitting the work to get behind hand, we shall proceed to state a few of the numerous things which should be promptly attended to

#### ON THE FARM.

**Corn Crop.**—Among the first things to be attended to, are those of *gathering and husking* of corn. All delay, after the corn is in a condition for cribbing, in the performance of these labors, but serves to impair the interest of the farmer and planter; as the fact of its *exposure* subjects the crop to the depredations of the biped and quadruped races, and not unfrequently tempts the beasts of the homestead into those habits of fence-breaking, and leaping, which adhere to them ever afterwards. Therefore, we say to all our brethren, get your corn in, and have it husked and stowed away, with all possible despatch after it shall be sufficiently dry for these purposes.

The price of corn is now on the advance, owing to the bad prospects of the grain crops of Europe; and from the failure in some parts of our own country of the corn crop, and its shortness in others, we have no doubt but that it will continue to advance until it will bear a just relation to the expense and trouble of production. With this pleasing prospect ahead,

we sincerely hope, that every corn grower will feel himself called upon to do all that in him lies, to save all that he has made, and profit by every rise in the market.

**Corn husks and Cornstalks.**—As the hay crop has been a very short one throughout a very large portion of our country, it should be a prominent object with every corn grower, to *gather and place under cover* these excellent substitutes for hay and fodder. Of *cornhusks*, every farmer is familiar with their value as food for cattle; but it is, and has been, too much the custom of all, to look upon corn-stalks as of no value except when trodden into manure in the cow yard—and too few, take the trouble even to avail themselves of them for such purpose. To all then, we say, that if corn-stalks be gathered and housed soon after the corn shall have been stripped off of them, that every ton of them which may be thus saved, will, if *cut*, prove to be the equivalent of  $\frac{2}{3}$ ths of a ton of the best hay as food for cattle, and that, if they be *steamed*, they will be equal to a ton.

**Corn Cobs.**—In view of the scarcity of long provender, we cannot omit calling attention to this excellent, but too often wasted, resource. Corn-cobs, as we have shown in a former number, are rich in nutrition, containing, in the proportion of 4 to 9 as much nutritious matter as the grain which may have been shelled off of them. This being the case, no farmer can, without being chargeable with a wasteful disposition, suffer them to be lost to his stock as food. If crushed before being fed, their value will be greatly enhanced.

**Full Ploughing.**—All stiff, tenacious clays, should be ploughed through the fall and winter; but the plough should never be put into them while in a *wet* state, as if it be, the very object had in view will be defeated.

**Cattle.**—As the pastures and woodlands now afford but a stinted supply of herbage, let it be an object with you to yard and feed your cattle of a night, as nothing is more conducive to carrying them through the winter well, than having them in good condition on the termination of autumn.

**Sheep.**—If you desire that your sheep shall pay you in *fleece and carcass* for your keep, let us, if you have not done so already, advise you to provide them with comfortable *sheds*, wherein they will be kept both warm and dry, as without this precaution, a large portion of their provender which should go to the increase of fat and wool, will be exhausted in furnishing heat to their bodies, and will consequently be lost to the owner. The salting of sheep, the giving them pine bows, and water regularly, are matters which should not be neglected through this and the succeeding winter and early spring months; nor is it less essential, that their bedding should be, at short intervals, renewed. In feeding them, three pounds of hay, daily, per head, will be enough. They should, however, occasionally, through the winter, receive as a part of their food, either bean, oats, barley, buckwheat, rye or corn-meal, as also messes of roots of some kind. In early spring, and indeed until the pastures are ready for their reception, these latter additions of food should be particularly attended to. In turning them to grass in the spring, care must be observed that, for some days, they be permitted to graze but a few hours at a time, and that they be furnished with hay during the residue of the day and night at their usual meals: as early grass is apt to bring on disorders of the intestines.

**Accumulation of Materials for Manure.**—Let it be a chief object of every farmer and planter to collect from this time out till spring every substance on his premises susceptible of being converted into manure. Leaves and mould from the woodlands, weeds of all kinds, marsh mud, scrapings of roads, headlands, and fence corners, offals of the homestead, vegetable matter of all kinds—in a word, every thing that is perishable, should be carefully collected and hauled into the cattle yards and hog-pens, and so spread as to prevent wastage. Thus treated, these substances will not only serve to absorb the urine of the stock, but will by spring become so enriched as to be equal in value to the best stable or barn-yard manure. It should be borne in mind that every head of stock will in twenty four hours discharge as much liquid manure—the best kind—as will furnish ammonia enough for a bushel of grain, or its equivalent in grasses. Such being the case, it should be the object, as it is the interest of husbandmen, not to permit any of it to go to waste, which it assuredly will, owing to its volatile nature, if they omit to provide the materials for absorbing and fixing it. The absorbents we have already named above, and we will now mention, that, in pulverized charcoal and plaster, they have the bodies which will attract, condense and retain the volatile gases we have designated.

**Feeding of Roots, &c.**—In feeding such substances to your stock, use those first which are most perishable, and should you have the convenience of doing so, cook them, as when thus fed they are not only more nutritious to all animals, except sheep, more healthful and easier of digestion.

**Fattening of Hogs.**—So soon as the mast and other nuts is pretty well consumed, is the time to pen your hogs for fattening—as it is a fact borne out by experience, that hogs take on fat more kindly in moderate than in cold weather. Besides their regular feed, hogs should be furnished with good dry warm lodgings, for though the hog is a dirty animal and delights in wallowing in the mire, he also *delights*, and thrives best in comfortable winter quarters. Their sleeping apartments should, at least once a week, be supplied with fresh bedding, of leaves or straw of some kind. At all times they should have in their pens, charcoal, ashes, and rotten wood. When first put up they should be given, say half an ounce of flour of sulphur a head in a mess of flour or bran of some kind. During the process of fattening, attention must be paid to supplying them, daily, with fresh water, and twice a week with a mixture of ashes and salt, in equal portions. And while these essentials are being attended to, do not forget every few days to spread over their outer pen some loads of leaves and mould to be manipulated by them into enriching manure for your next year's crops. Of all manufacturers of the food of plants, hogs, it must be admitted, are the best and most effectual—their snouts, backed by their propensity for rooting, of all processes beside, are best calculated to produce that delicate admixture of elements, so desirable in the food of plants. But, in order that no part of the virtues of the manure be lost, it would be advisable that twice a week at least, a bushel of pulverized charcoal should be spread over the mass in the pen, to arrest and save for the purposes of culture, the volatile gases of the substances therein.

**Salting and Management of Stock of all kinds.**—Every animal on the farm, whether horses, mules, cattle, or sheep, should be salted at least twice a week. Should the cost of salt be considered an objection, a mixture composed of 2 fifths salt, 1 fifth lime, 1 fifth sifted hickory ashes and 1 fifth pulverised charcoal, while it will be much cheaper, will prove equally salutary.

**Chopt Fed.**—We have no doubt that, if all grain which may be fed to horses, mules, and cattle, were previously chopt and mixt with cut straw or hay, a saving might be effected to the extent of fully one-third; and we believe also, that cattle would thrive better.

**Apples.**—In gathering your apples do it by hand, whether intended for table or for cider making. After stowing them in a dry place for a few days to sweat, have them overhauled and wiped.

**Corn House.**—Before stowing away your corn, you should subject your corn house to a thorough cleansing—taking care after carefully sweeping the inside, ceiling, sides and floor, to wash every part of the interior, with a strong ley, and then to whitewash both inside and out. That done, examine for rat and mice holes; have all you find stopt up. These things done stow away your corn, and see that there be no holes or other facilities existing for the ingress of vermin.

**Store Hogs.**—Look to it and see that your store hogs

are provided with a good warm pen and dry bedding through the winter, and without stuffing them, that they receive a sufficiency of food to keep them in good condition; not forgetting to supply them with materials to work into manure, and that they have charcoal and ashes always at command.

**Fences, Bars and Gates.**—Personally inspect every pannel of fence upon your farm, and have every necessary repair promptly made. If the entrance to your fields are through *bars*, have those bars substituted by *gates*, for you may rest assured that the time occupied in taking down and putting up a set of bars, would in two years pay for a gate.

**Tools, Carts, Wagons, Gearing and Implements.**—Look over and examine with care every tool, cart, wagon, gearing and implement on your place—those which require it have forthwith repaired; such as you may not need for use put away under cover from the weather. Before putting away your gearing have them cleaned and oiled.

**Getting out Grain.**—Go ahead with your thrashing out and cleaning of your grain, in order that you may be ready upon any emergency to avail yourself of a rise in the market; but be sure to keep your eyes wide open against the runners of speculators, who are hurried from the seaports on the wings of the wind to speculate on the want of information of the unsuspecting producer.

**Fire-wood and Fencing.**—Cut and haul in a full supply of fire-wood to last you through this fall, winter, spring and summer—don't delay hauling until the roads become impassable. Cut your posts and rails, shape them into form, haul them into your barn yard and pile them up neatly, so that they may be in readiness when needed.

**Roots of all kinds** should be dug in season and carefully stowed away.

*For the American Farmer.*

## TO THE YOUNG FARMERS OF MARYLAND,

### Essay No. 4

#### ON PRACTICAL AGRICULTURE.

### MANURES.

Were we to meet accidentally, and after the ordinary salutations, I were to say to you, "No wonder you cannot afford to manure your land"—and to your query in rejoinder, were to reply—"Because you throw away *three-fourths* of your manure?" you might possibly be offended; and yet such is in most cases literally the fact.

In the first place, unless yours be a grazing farm, and you rely upon the produce of the pasture, simply to supply beef; letting Cattle range at will during six months of the year, merely yarding them at night, wastes one fourth of the solid and liquid excretions of your stock, estimated for the whole year—Because unless regularly gathered up, at great expense, the solids after being several times washed is finally baked, and imparts less fertility to your ground than fertilizing gas to the atmosphere—while the liquid does not act advantageously unless in a fermented state, and is generally diluted and then washed away, before it arrives at that stage.

You lose one-fourth more from similar influences, when after saving the bulk of the yard and stable manure, you neglect entirely to preserve the liquid portions. While it will be safely within the limits of fact, to compute a further loss of one fourth by evaporation of the volatile salts, when not prevented by the application of some one of those absorbing substances, known as "fixers."

With a few concise remarks on the nature of manures and their classes, I propose to proceed at once to detail a simple and inexpensive plan to save nearly all of, if indeed not to add a *little more* to, home-made manure.

What I desire to be understood by the term "*manure*," is every description of inorganic, stimulant property; either found in or applied to the land under cultivation.\*

Manures are called natural or artificial as they are found in or applied to the land, for the sake of classification; but they are strictly speaking, all natural; as proceeding from certain organic or functional, natural causes; except such chemical compounds, known as "Artificial Guano," the "Bommer method," &c.—the one a synthesis, or reversing the analysis of natural guano, by forming one containing its chemical properties—the other is a chemical process to hasten, as well as increase the power of decomposition.

It is the act of application which is artificial.

They are animal or vegetable, or both, as they are flesh alone, herbaceous alone, and excremental—which last partakes chiefly of vegetable, as food is more in bulk than animal waste. They are calcareous as they partake of the qualities of lime, or calx: such as shells, plaster, &c.

\*As there may arise some misapprehension as to the sense of the relative terms, organic and inorganic, as applied to manures by me; it may be proper to explain their actual significance:

Everything forming a part of a *structure* originally, or contributing to the vigor thereof subsequently, is organic; whether applied to animal, vegetable or mineral natural substances, but does not necessarily imply the presence of vitality; although, as in the cases of the animal and vegetable economy, where there is active and passive life, whatever contributes by secretion to sustain that principle, is *to them* organic—what is rejected, or excreted, is consequently *to them* in-organic. Hence, faeces of every description are to animal life inorganic, while they contain nearly all the components of vegetable organism, and are, when applied to their growth, organic *to them*. On the contrary, when introduced mechanically and artificially into a soil, for a certain purpose, they are not, nor do they become a part of its organic structure; that is unalterable, and refers itself back to its geological origin; but the soil digests, and with the assistance of air and water, renders soluble and prepares a liquid for the uses of vegetation.

By this means the apparent contradictions of Liebig and others, can be reconciled. Liebig (pronounced *Leebig*, with a lisp, not *Liibig*) maintains that "inorganic (that is foreign) substances are the food of plants."

The late Hon. Judge Buel, than whom the annals of agriculture boast no higher practical authority—in his "Farmers' Companion" asserts truly, "That plants like animals, are *fed on organic matters*"—while Johnston, in his *Agricultural Chemistry* is rather non-committal, but sufficiently clear on this point. He says "so-called (for the sake of distinction) "in-organic matters."

They act most readily as they soonest produce decomposition or are decomposed after being applied: *a* are generally durable in a parallel ratio, and are powerful in proportion to the quantities of those fertilizing agents contained in them, and which are most needed by the soil to which they are applied, to feed the crop being already, or to be next grown on it.—As a hungry man, although naked, asks first for bread; while an alderman, sick with repletion, prays for an appetite—Hence the cry, "Lime will not act on my land," or "Plaster has ceased to act."—But of these, under their appropriate heads of "application"—It being my design to confine this to the home-bred word, the "economy" of manures.

Had Locke been reasoning on matter instead of mind, he would perhaps have been more familiar with his thesis, in its incipency; and confined to that portion of it called "earth," would certainly have been more correct in his conclusions—the simple earths are negative pabulums, of which there are several; combinations of these form what are called soils—mould is decayed vegetable matter so closely assimilated to and combined with soil, as frequently to be confused with it, and is generally black or dark brown—as the surface of wood-soil for instance, and is in fact a manure.

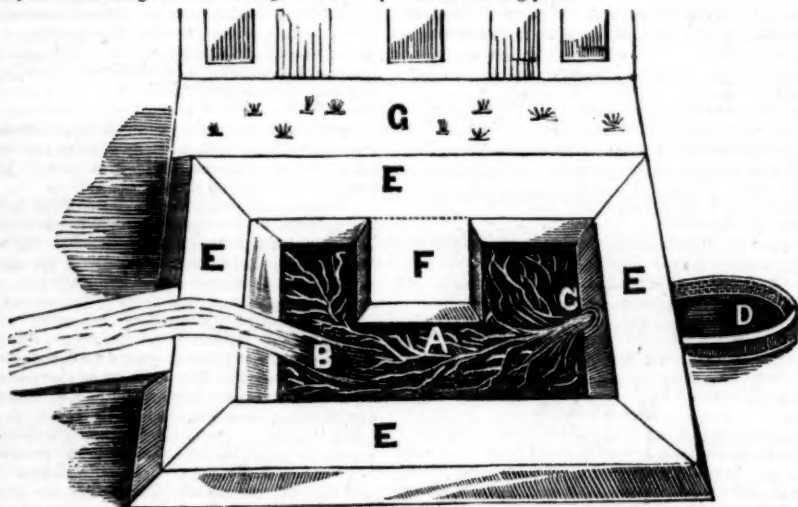
The word "chemistry" now-a-days, should not even alarm those who, with horror, declaim against book farming. It is a mere scientific term to express in one word, "the knowledge which investigates the compo-

sition and properties of bodies"—so that every body, of whatever nature, is taken cognizance of by chemistry.—The word "agriculture" to some, is equally appalling, but being more familiar with it, our nerves are less shocked,—and "agricultural chemistry," it must be confessed, is a formidable heading on paper, but reduced to "what ploughed ground is made of," it becomes as docile as that little chemical laboratory, vulgarly yelet a lamb!

Only indulge in these "foregone" reflections to reduce the capacity of your minds, to the appreciation of some plain truths on a very homely, but not the less paramount feature in Rural Economy.

There is no doubt of one thing, and upon this we all agree—Had we only enough of the good, old-fashioned, barn-yard and stable manure, we would know exactly what to do with it—now, although we can scarcely ever hope to attain to this word's full significance, of anything—let us endeavor to approach as near it as may be, in the article of manure; and by cultivating only so much land each year, as we can manure enough, accomplish something definite as far as it goes.

We will presume our field labors are over; our supply of wood near the kitchen, and our stock housed, or at least yarded. If you have not done it already, go to work tomorrow, with "all hands," and have the centre, or a convenient portion of your barn-yard, made into the shape of a vat or pan, on the following plan:



If the foundation be a stiff clay, haul sufficient to make the banks from some other place, if not, scoop it out, until you reach an impermeable pan or bed, puddle it with clay if need be; so as to secure a water tight-bottom, to save the liquid portions of the manure. It should not be more than five feet deep, both for the sake of convenience in working and to prevent fermentation.

We'll say *A* is the bottom of the pan or vat, from which the cart walk *B* leads out; the bank on this side having a very gradual slope, for the purpose of hauling in and out. *E*'s represent the four sides, which should be wide enough to feed stock upon, and even to cart dirt on or manure away; these sides, being the top of the bank, should incline towards the

vat, to convey in the liquid manure and washings. *C*, is the outlet, or trunk, which leads to the cistern *D*. *C* should be at the deepest or lowest part of the pan, with small channels cut in to convey every drop away, if desired. The cistern should be outside the yard, or enclosed separately to prevent accidents. *F* is a clay platform jutting out nearly half way across, to wheel manure out or from the stable, and to pile upon, when preparing the manure for hauling out, and should incline inwards slightly to drain it well. A space, *G*, should also be left, between the upper, *E*, side, and the barn, about twenty feet wide, for various purposes and for the yard stock to lie down upon.

There is no objection to a little rain water, as it



saturates the whole mass, and assists in preventing fermentation, while submerged; while it contributes to hasten it, when the compost is exposed to the action of atmospheric air; but no more should be allowed to enter than falls on the surface and is carried in from the shelving sides—that from the roof of the barn, if near, being carefully conducted away by spouting.

A circular cistern ten feet deep by six feet in diameter, can be dugged, and walled with stone for ten dollars, and on a farm of one hundred acres, they can both be constructed by the force employed every day, so that there need be little or no money outlay.

Having completed the vat, have hauled into it six inches of mould; ditch bank soil, alluvion or other soil containing vegetable matter—then two feet of wheat straw; pine straw, or leaves as most convenient—remote from market, the former is preferable, as it not only decays soonest, but is of itself a good manure for wheat-land. Pine straw, or leaves, is the poorest vegetable production, but where there are no oak or forests of deciduous trees, it is better to use it than none—Oak and other leaves, except pine, are the cheapest and most abundant generally, and indeed where there is sale for grain straw, the most preferable, nor are they entirely destitute of inorganic manure, containing five per cent of ashes, or mineral deposit, when burned possessing the usual neutral salts.—The chief object, however, by this mode, is to secure a pervious body, to hold the liquid portions of the manure. On this spread one foot of dung and then sow one bushel of plaster on a surface of fifty feet square, to fix, by absorbing, or rather appropriating the ammonia; or, in plain language the odour; for whenever that is present, the most valuable part of your manure is evaporating.

The whole will by this, have settled to some two feet six inches in thickness, when proceed as at first, until a second course is completed; when, have the liquor drawn off into the cistern, and the compost forked out, on to the sides and platform to drain; mixing it as much as possible while doing so. In about twenty four hours it will be time to haul it away, to where it will be wanted; there it should be piled up, in one oblong heap, pointed on the top, and plaster sown, or soil spread over it.

Fermentation will soon occur, depending upon the weather somewhat, and by spring your manure will be in a fine condition, for application to any crop.

From two cows and four horses, I made through the winter, two hundred horse cart-loads of strong manure.—And this suggests a word about feeding for manure—keep no more stock than you can stuff; keep these warm, and they will produce more manure than double the number on bad feeding.—Upon the quality of the feed depends the value of the manure.

A good plan to have the compost well worked, is to cast coarse hay, fodder or grain upon it, and turn on the stock and pigs—acorns scraped up when hauling leaves will answer well, as a substitute.

Diluted sulphuric acid (oil of vitriol) is recommended by high authority, as preferable to gypsum, (sulphate of lime) for fixing ammonia, but is more expensive.

The objections to the cistern being sunk in the centre of the vat, are the danger of accidents to your stock, and there being no room to work near it.

A cellar accessible to pigs is an excellent place to deposit manure, but unless guarded against, fermentation will ripen into combustion in your horse ordure, and consume one half of it.

In conclusion, gentlemen, permit me to say, that uniformity is the test of all well organized systems, and the best guaranty of their authority: as is plainly exemplified in all sections where agriculture has attained to that degree of perfection it is susceptible of reaching.—And to carry this out thoroughly and practically, we must compare ideas with our fellow farmers. Did you ever see two farmers meet—be it at church, the polls or tavern—but what farming and their particular modes especially, became the ruling theme? But unfortunately, we hug our own views and prejudices so closely, as to obscure our mental vision, and shut out from our intellectual tympanum, all we hear.

Let us endeavour to enlarge the sphere of reflective action, and by organizing local clubs, hold familiar converse upon the subject of all others most interesting, both to us and to all men, of this world's concerns.—That by testing experimentally, each different view, we may arrive at last, at a uniform method of performing every duty pertaining to our profession.

Sincerely yours,

CINCINNATUS

Furley Hall, Baltimore County, Md.

### THE COTTON CROP—CLAIRMONT NURSERY.

Eufaula, Barbour Co., Alabama, Oct. 8, 1845.

To the Editor of the American Farmer—

DEAR SIR,—I had the pleasure this morning of receiving the October number of the American Farmer—I find it, as well as the three numbers I have read of the present volume, full of most interesting and valuable matter. I forward you the "Eufaula Democrat," in which you will learn the proceedings of the late Agricultural meeting of the Barbour County Agricultural Society. It would have afforded us much pleasure to have placed the "Farmer" on the list of our agricultural works to be given for premiums at our approaching Fair, if there had been any volumes of the work published at one dollar.—I will, however, whenever it is in my power, use my best exertions to extend the circulation of the American Farmer. After leaving Baltimore we called at Washington City, and spent two days; we found much to interest us, particularly in the elegant style in which we found the grounds around the Capitol. I called on the Commissioner of Patents, who, I was pleased to find, was much engaged in making arrangements for the Agricultural department of the annual report. He kindly furnished me with a few rare seeds, which I have sowed in my garden, and trust I will be able to introduce them in our country. In passing through the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, we found that all that has been said of the effect of the drouth on the growing crop as well as the crop gathered, was but too true—however, much depends on the present month, as to the quantity of cotton made; should we escape frosts until late in October and the first of November, the crop will be much increased. I have returned from a trip of three days through the country, and the planters all speak of only making half a crop of Cotton—we have recently had some refreshing showers, and it is still remarkably warm.

I must before closing this letter, say something of the pleasure I enjoyed in company with yourself, on paying a visit to the Clairmont Nursery and the venerable proprietor. Indeed, having been spared for over half a century, I can say with much truth that I have at no time in my life spent a more pleasant day than the 3rd of September last, in company of the

venerable proprietor of Clairmont Nursery. There we found all that kind hospitality mixed with a cheerfulness of disposition that a long and well spent life is so well calculated to give. The large and extensive Nursery of well selected Fruit and Ornamental Trees, gave full evidence of that care and industry so important to secure success in any branch of business. We found Mr. Corse also a perfect gentleman, with much kind feeling, and great industry—and we have no doubt, that as the venerable founder of that delightful spot must soon pass to that happy home which will be prepared for him, as well as the good and virtuous of all nations and kindreds, that Clairmont Nursery, in the hands of Mr. Corse, will still continue to be, as it has been, a most interesting and beautiful place, from whose grounds many a valuable orchard as well as handsome yard will be supplied. I must be permitted to say that I shall ever look back to my visit to Clairmont Nursery and its aged owner and kind and venerable Lady, as one of the sunny spots of my life.

At a future time, if spared, we will give you some account of our Farming operations. Wishing you the greatest success in your efforts to improve the husbandry of our common country,

I am your friend,

ALEXANDER M'DONALD.

We have received the Eufaula paper sent us by Col. M'Donald, and find in it the proceedings of the Barbour Co. (Ala.) Agricultural Society, of which Col. M'D. is president. The object of the meeting was to make arrangements for the Annual Fair, and a respectable list of premiums was presented, payable in cash, and in agricultural publications. Measures were also taken to obtain correct information in regard to the extent of the cotton crop of this season.

*For the American Farmer.*

#### AN OUTLINE OF AN AMERICAN VINEYARD FROM THE START.

*Mr. Editor* :—The following outline is the result of years of successful experiments.

1. Select the best tested American grapes—particularly such as are found to mature well, whether the vines are young or old; if you wish such as will bear forthwith, take those well rooted of several years standing in the nursery.

2. Plant in manner of fruit trees, ten feet each way; except the scuppernong: 20 feet for them.

Trim in summer or early in fall, tying up one or two main stems unchecked in length to stakes for a year or so; after which, insert a post with two cleats nailed each side of the upper square end to hold rails or scantling for making the frame for the outspreading canopy of vines above. After the vines have started over said frame, no more trimming is necessary, except it may be to cut off any straggling branches under the canopy that all may be kept clear beneath for say 6 or 7 feet high.

3. As to soil, any will do with proper management. I have the finest of good bearing vines in almost all kinds; from the light sandy to the stiff clayey. And as to strength of soil, there is more danger of having land too rich than too poor, as to the bearing properties of vines. As a general principle, ground that will bring good corn is plenty rich for vines, provided you dig or plough, or both, some depth and width, when the vines set, and put manure or surface soil at the bottom of the opening, and then cover with com-

mon earth e're planting, that no manure or too rich soil may come in contact with the roots to endanger their safety in case of a drought the first season after planting.

4. The best mode of keeping up due fertility of soil, is this, viz: in connection with never suffering your vineyard at any time of year to become grassy or weedy, to be particularly careful to scurify the ground; and after fall frosts, that no leaves or litter from your vines blow off, or become incorporated with the soil beneath the canopies. Nature's mode of keeping up and increasing the fertility of woodlands, taught me this mode, and the very best too of manuring vineyards, or what is more than equivalent thereto.

5. The foregoing is the whole secret of having a first rate vineyard, the ripe fruit of which is the most healthful as well as pleasant, and can be enjoyed for several months in the year; the wines from which are in no danger of adulterations; and as to a family medicine, according to the voice of experience, and of most eminent physicians, the very best single healing one in the *Materia Medica*; and also an anticipator of disease in sickly places and seasons, when taken temperately, say after dinner.

A few additional little matters, and I close this off hand hastily written article.

1. I tie my vines with elm bark, which being got in spring, are at any season ready when soaked, and outlasts any strings I have ever tried.

2. In a wet season I insert posts, with what we call *jobbers*—that is, a piece of wood say 3 feet long, sharpened at one end, and a strong peg inserted through the other end for raising it by a stake or crow-bar, when driven into the ground by a maul or beetle. Into the hole made thereby, insert your post, say two or more feet deep.

Posts at any time can be renewed when giving way, by propping up the part of the canopy above. Posts of any lasting wood had better be charred at the little end, so as to stand inversely from the way they did when growing as a tree. According to statements I have read in Agricultural periodicals, they will last much longer when thus inverted, or standing as it were upside down.

Pardon the hasty and desultory style of this communication, and believe me ever yours, and a hearty wisher of all deserved success in your avocation in the best of all arts and sciences, as that of Agriculture is the foundation of all the rest.

Yours, &c. SIDNEY WELLER.

*Brinkleyville, Halifax Co. N. C. Sept. 16, 1845.*

P. S.—Editors friendly to the American Vineyard cause, will please copy this. S. W.

*New Process of Tanning Leather.*—The Dayton (Ohio) Transcript says: "Mr. W. L. Darrow of this city, has succeeded in making another important discovery in the process of tanning leather, which throws that recently made by Simon Snyder, entirely in the shade. He has discovered a method by which he can tan sole leather in a perfect manner in the incredibly short space of three days, and an ordinary calf skin in less than 18 hours. We have a small piece of sole leather before us now which is remarkably firm in its texture and evidently of good quality. This leather was tanned in three days. To this fact Mr. Darrow has made an affidavit, which affidavit has been attached to his application for a patent right and sent on to Washington. The process by which this important revolution in the tanning business is to be effected has not been made known by the inventor."

*For the American Farmer.*  
**ANALYSIS OF THE SOIL**  
OF MR. GEORGE PATTERSON'S FARM.

No. 1. Sample of soil taken from the woods adjoining the cornfield:

100 grains of soil, loss by red heat,	11.	grains.
Coarse Silix,	37.	"
Fine matter,	38.	"
Alumina,	7.	"
Oxide of Iron,	4.	"
Potash,	.50	"
Loss,	2.50	"

100. grains.

This sample was taken from a hollow which had received the washing of the woods, and contained fine roots and decayed leaves, which accounts for the great loss by red heat.—The land is what is called chesnut land—soil very light and poor.

No. 2.

100 grains, loss by red-heat	10.	grains.
Silix,	27.	"
Fine matter,	51.	"
Alumina,	7.	"
Oxide of Iron,	3.	"
Lime,	1.	"
Chlorine, a trace,	0.	"
Phosphates and Potash,	.70	"
Loss,	.30	"

100. grains.

The above sample No. 2, was taken at the distance of 12 feet within the outer edge of the limed land. This part of the field received in 1831,—50 bushels of lime per acre; and again in 1836,—100 bushels more, in all, 150 bushels of Lime per acre, the land laid down in clover; from the above, we find the last application of lime took place 9 years ago, and at this time shows 1 per cent. of lime and part of the 51 per cent. of fine matter; in the analysis are silicates of Lime. The hills were laid off at 4 feet distance, with three stocks to the hill, with the average of 3 ears of corn to the hill. The ears are well filled to the end; my calculations after measuring the ears, and counting the number of ears in a certain distance, shows over 12 barrels of corn per acre; 16 feet from where this sample was taken, and 4 feet beyond the limed part, stand two rows of stalks, on a piece of ground, on which a fence had been standing for many years, and had been removed in the spring—and had been manured but not limed. The stalks measured from two to five feet high; the product would not exceed half a barrel per acre. From the above, we see the advantage of lime over manure in time of drought. This land was considered very poor before it received the liming, and would not have produced one barrel of corn per acre.

No. 3.

100 grains, loss by red heat,	11.	grains
Silix,	28.	"
Fine matter,	46.	"
Oxide of Iron,	3.	"
Lime,	1.	"
Alumina,	10.	"
Chlorine a trace,	0.	"
Potash,	.45	"
Loss,	.55	"

100. grains.

The above soil had in addition to the lime, received this spring 500 lbs. of Guano per acre, with an

eastern exposure, shielded by a woods, and originally a better soil. On measurement of the stalk I found it only 6 inches higher than the stalks of No. 2. The ear was not larger, nor better filled, and the number of ears to a hill averaged the same as No. 2; there were 8 cuts in the field, on which different manures were used, such as chips, straw, stable manure, and some new soil, all limed. The only difference I found was in the chip manure, but the difference was owing to the exposure and poorness of the soil. From the above we find no advantage in using Guano this season. Guano requires heat and moisture to bring on the fermentation; its failure must be attributed to the want of moisture. I am satisfied if there had been rain during the month of July, this piece would have produced 16 barrels per acre.

No. 4. Oats Crop—This land was limed with 125 to 130 bushels of Lime per acre; the oats are the heaviest I have seen in my rides through the richest soils of Carroll and Frederick counties.—This land was very poor, and without the lime would not have produced the seed this season.

No. 5. Is the Cabbage lot, which has received at the rate of 500 bushels of Lime, with ashes, per acre. The crop of cabbage is more than quadruple, for the same quantity of ground which I have seen in my ride through Carroll, Frederick, Washington and Alleghany counties, during the month of September. From the above, the friends of lime need not fear during the time of drought.

Sykesville, Oct. 20, '45.

W. B.

The following has been forwarded by the writer for publication in the "American Farmer."

**ARTICHOKES.**

Having been for years an occasional humble contributor to your columns on various subjects. I have as a theme now selected that of a very common vegetable; but though common as a garden plant it is rather uncommon in these parts to see it in a field or lot culture. It is to the latter use for stock generally, and swine in particular, I invite the attention of planters in this part of our state; and I know of no better way I can adopt to my purpose than that of giving my own experience with the Artichoke. Having seen it highly recommended for extended culture in different Agricultural periodicals, particularly in the "Southern Planter," of Richmond, Va. I was induced to try the culture of the plant on a small scale, spring before last. I collected for seed a few of the common white artichoke which grew about my premises, believing that any species of plant indigenous or acclimated was the best generally to cultivate. I selected a spot of very moderate fertility, which some would call poor land, and after running furrows about three feet apart, I put in the drills ere planting, a few old corn-stalks by the way of manure, then dropped bits of artichokes about 10 inches apart and covered them with the plow. The after culture was very little; as that of scarifying the ground with a harrow and cultivator two or three times and giving very little hoe work. They grew very luxuriantly, and in the beginning of winter the furrows where the plants were, were opened, and the artichokes gathered, are all appearing in the drills. I filled several empty flour barrels, and those thus saved kept perfectly sound in a cellar till spring, when some were planted and the rest fed to swine, and in the ground where the first patch was planted early last spring the young plants came up as thick almost as they could stand; all but the few in the drills were

dig up and fed to my hogs. Having seen accounts in the "Cultivator" of one gentleman in Alabama and another in Massachusetts who each made about 700 bushels to the acre, I was desirous to ascertain the yield of mine as near as I could, and made out 20 bushels on a twentieth of an acre, or that the yield of my poor ground was not much more than half of the two named North and South. But I was so encouraged by the result that I planted near two acres last spring in lots where I can keep my swine in the winter. I have just given these their last working, and they all look very promising. The severe dry spell here has affected them less I believe than any other field culture vegetable. There are some striking advantages in artichoke culture. One is their great and sure yield compared with that of most other plants. For instance, I consider their produce ten times greater than corn, and with far less labor in the culture. Again, they keep perfectly sound in the winter in almost any situation either gathered or left in the ground. If the latter, hogs can help themselves to them at any period after the crop is matured till they are again cultivated. The tops (an abundant yield of them too) are good for stock green or cured, or they are valuable to put in the drills for a succeeding crop, and tend to thus improve the soil where cultivated; on the principle that the litter or tops of any vegetable is the best help in the way of manure for that vegetable; as cornstalks put in drills is the best litter for corn, as I have found from several years experience. Where the artichoke tops were in the drills this year I find the most luxuriant growth of that vegetable.

I have lately learned that a gentleman in Nash county, brought a very superior kind of artichoke from Tennessee, and that the yield and growth is truly astonishing, and that so anxious are his neighbors to avail themselves of its advantages that they give him two dollars a bushel for seed. I have been told from the same source of information that the Nash farmer has a field of twenty acres now in culture, and that the tops are higher than a man's head. If so they are rather higher than mine are now. I shall certainly, if I live, try and procure a bushel for seed of said kind, if for no other reason than to compare with my indigenous variety. And if found superior or answerable to the stirring description of the Tennessee kind, I shall communicate the fact for your useful print in due time. Yours, &c.

SIDNEY WELLER.

Brinkleyville, N. C., June 23d, 1845.

A farmer lately turned his sheep into a lot occupied by some cherry trees, which had sent up shoots from the roots, the consequence was, that the sheep partook of the leaves of these shoots, and were soon seen staggering about the lot and tumbling upon their heads. Many of them died, when their stomachs were found to contain large quantities of these leaves which, all know, abound with prussic acid, fatal alike to man and animals. It should be known, too, that the stones and twigs, as well as the leaves of the peach, also contain prussic acid, and are poisonous.

**Valuable Merino Sheep.**—Mr. J. Speed, living near Ithica, N. Y. has clipped from a large number of his ewes, over 5 pounds per head of well washed wool. As an evidence of its quality, it is stated that Mr. S. has been offered for his whole clip, full blood and grade, 40 cents per pound. His flock numbers 60; about half of which only are pure full blooded animals.

From Transactions of the N. Y. State Agricul. Society—1844.

## AGRICULTURE OF MISSISSIPPI.

By M. W. Phillips, Editor of the "Southwestern Farmer."

[Concluded from page 117.]

We will now return to the State from this digression, which I trust may be of service. This State is well known to be a cotton growing one, and too many, both at home and abroad, think it can do nothing else. This is an error, as before shown; but, to be more particular: From very respectable authority, I can say that wheat has been grown weighing sixty to sixty-eight lbs. per bushel—that forty bushels have been cut from one acre—one hundred and one bushels of sound corn gathered from one, out of a fifty acre field—not meaning that all would be as good, but that it was all cultivated alike.

I have seen an entire crop, within three miles of me, of one hundred acres, that averaged fifty bushels per acre, and not a shovel full of manure to all or any of it. I have cut, from what was supposed to be a fair average spot of my little crop, at the rate of four tons of well cured millet grass per acre. I have also cut at the rate of 36,000 pounds of green corn fodder, and the driest season known. I have shown here native grass, "nimble will," that measured near five feet, and crab grass that exceeded six feet in length, not including a joint where roots had sprung from. Hogs killed out of the woods, that never ate ten grains of grain to our knowledge, weighing two hundred and twelve pounds; others that were in the range, but stalling before killing, weighing from two hundred to over four hundred pounds, and but one of them over two years.

Will this not satisfy? Had we the energy, industry and improving spirit of our northern brethren, we could do any thing in husbandry; but unfortunately, our northern friends, when settling among us, soon get to be as lazy as we denizens of a southern clime are.

I know of nothing that could add more to the welfare of this my adopted State than disseminating agricultural facts and agricultural knowledge, generally speaking. Our legislators cannot be induced to do any thing in this matter, and although agricultural books and papers are very cheap, yet my fellow citizens in the mass, seeing no utility, will not subscribe or buy. We "must wait a time with patience," until time has the opportunity to work the change, which I am happy to say is now going on. Good plows and effective plowing has done much to assist in bringing about this change, and probably it is well for improvement to work its own way, and prove itself to be "worthy and well qualified." The difference in opinion of writers would serve much either to confuse or to disgust; whilst some hold that lime is indispensably necessary to use, others affirm if vegetable matter be applied there will be all the ingredients necessary, while others speak confidently of the atmosphere; the plain farmer becomes bewildered, and leaves "book farming" alone. I should not find fault with what I could not mend, but yet I cannot but express my opinion. At all events, we cannot doubt that the soil of western Mississippi has lime enough, and that all we have to do is to apply vegetable matter, and plow deep. I have experimented, and speak from due reflection.

The farmers throughout the length and breadth of our country can at least redeem their children, and in no way so surely as by the method now about commencing—using agricultural works in schools. Allow me, dear sir, through you, to express, as an



individual, to your society, my warmest approbation of this measure, and to assure them that one of their fellow-citizens, though he be in the swamp of Big Black, and in the wilds of Mississippi, yet feels proud of them as his fellow-countrymen.

#### ADDITIONAL REMARKS ON ROTATION OF CROPS.

Having been directly engaged in farming for nearly fifteen years, giving my personal attention, and often assisting in all the details; I can with some experience recommend to my brethren the four field rotation as suited to a southern culture. This rotation is, cotton, corn, grain, and rest, in the order named—that is, cotton on the land that was at rest, corn follow, then grain, then rest.

I go farther than the mere rotation, thinking the good only half effected,—I would therefore advise the cotton fields should be sown down about the first of September in rye and turnips, one bushel of the first, and a pint or even a half pint of the last per acre: when hands walk through to gather cotton, they will cover or press the seed into the earth if rains do not sufficiently, to secure a stand. This will give excellent grazing for sheep and cattle after gathering, until time to plow for corn.

On corn fields, I would say, sow a peck, or if possible a half bushel of cow-peas between corn rows, just before the last plowing, in May or June; and after the corn is gathered, say in September or October, sow one bushel of rye per acre. In this latitude, in ordinary seasons, the pea vine will have covered the earth before the first of August, this will give one of the richest pastures known to our country for all kinds of stock; and whilst the pasture is being eaten out, there will be peas enough trodden into the earth to make a tolerable fair stand in the succeeding grain crop—no fear about the rye, it will assuredly be provided for—all that is required is to sow it down.

On the grain crop, when oats are required, plow up the rye in February or early in March, and sow down  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  bushels of oats, with a peck to a half bushel of peas,—the latter will come up about the time of the oats, but will not grow more than a few inches high, until the grain is cut off, when they will soon cover the land—or in the rye left standing open, cut rows six to eight feet apart, with a bull-tongue plow in March, and drill peas—cover with another furrow. Many peas will lie in the ground all winter, and come up in the spring. I have had a piece of land covered in many patches entirely, where oats had followed corn.

The year of rest, will show a tolerable good stand of peas on good land, and of course will aid in covering the land, which will be ensured by the cotton and corn stalks, pea vine, stubble and grass allowed to rot in the earth.

I could not myself avoid pasturing all the fields to some extent, and believe if the land is good enough to produce 20 bushels of corn, and 800 lbs. of cotton, that pasturing the land to a moderate extent will not prevent a permanent improvement; and from my experience, though I have never rested but one field, and it not in cotton since, I feel that facts would bear me out in saying, that in three years the crops would be increased to 30 bushels of corn, and 1200 lbs. of cotton.

I have not said anything of manures, which by this mode of work would be trebled easily, it being almost a branch of business of itself; I would only say, use it on cotton, for the corn and grain will not be important, there not being much made, and so much pasturing would require even less.

There are many who object to this rotation because it requires so much open land; this is more apparent than real, for the diminution of the cotton crop is not as great as appears from the diminution of land, there being a better cultivation, as well as much time to add to the returns by manuring, besides which there is a vast increase of food which will render the work animals more effective, as also longer lived, and also render stock more profitable. I propose though, to decrease the number of laborers by disposal, or the employment of a portion in clearing, providing manure, draining and improving generally. If by manuring, the cotton crop can be increased in amount, which Dr. Cloud has proved, as also many others, then will a given number of acres employ more hands in gathering the crop than in cultivating it—add to which, the clearing, and you will see that in a very short time the whole force will be brought into active and really profitable use; by adding the hands employed at clearing or ingathering, there would be much more time to clear and manure between crops.

I have dwelt too long on this subject, and yet have not dwelt on it as long as its importance might warrant, for I sincerely believe, that by some species of rotation, the cow-pea, rye, and turnips, that we can improve our land, and increase our crops at one and the same time. I would not give rest at all, (if the labor of the farm could manage so much cleared land every year,) but would follow grain with cow-peas, at the rate of three or four pecks per acre sown broadcast and plowed in, in the month of May. The effects of cow-peas can be shown here—can be shown wherever the pea has been sown thick enough, and any attention paid to relative product of the land.—Would my brethren only consent to use a half bushel of cow-peas on all corn land, and a half to three-quarters of a bushel of rye only, on every cultivated acre, and change land yearly, I do most confidently believe that in ten years, ordinary land would become good, and good land would produce with the choicest.

Yours,

M. W. PHILIPS.

#### USING SINGLE OXEN.

Many farmers are not aware of the many uses to which a single ox may be put. If they happen to lose one of the yoke, they too generally let the other remain idle until they can find a mate for him, or sell him to the butcher. But why not keep him to work? In a single yoke they may be soon taught to lead a team and perform all the operations which a single horse can.

A worthy old relative of ours—God bless him—once tried this experiment with complete success. Having lost one of his steers by accident, he concluded to train the other to work alone. Accordingly he was put into the single harness—before other oxen—or in the fills of a single wagon. In the horse cart he was first rate, and he soon became familiar with the saddle and bridle, and many a good ride have we had, in our younger days, *a la mode de Hotentot*, upon his back. He was no mean courser upon the turf, and if we had him now in his prime, we should not fear matching him with the best of the *scrub snepstakes*, though backed and spurred by the veriest horse jockey, that can be found from Kittery to Calais.—*Maine Farmer.*

*Abortion among Cows.*—Earl Spencer says, that since he placed lumps of rock salt in his pasture lands, none of his cows have suffered abortion.

### NATIONAL CONVENTION OF FARMERS AND SILK CULTURISTS.

This Convention (which has been sitting in the city of New York) re-assembled on Saturday, and the President announced the following gentlemen as the "Central Committee," viz: J. S. SKINNER, H. MEIGS, and Col. E. CLARK.

Mr. ROBINSON observed that this Committee was appointed for the purpose of gathering information from all parts of the country, and reporting at the session of the Convention next year.

Mr. ROBINSON, of Indiana, from the Committee to prepare an address to the people of the United States, then rose and reported that they had agreed upon the following Address, which they now submitted to the Convention for its consideration:

*To the Friends of Improvement in the Science of Agriculture, Horticulture, and Silk Culture in the U. States:*

The Convention of Delegates representing these important interests, now holding their third annual meeting under the call of the American Institute of New York, address their brethren who have not the good fortune to be with us upon this occasion, to congratulate them upon the fact that the course of improvement in the cultivation of the earth is still onward. And why should it not be so? We possess a country of rich soil, and a climate reaching from the line of tropical plants to that of a region so cold that man must resort to other means for support beside cultivating the earth.

But, with all our advantages of soil and climate, there appears to be a conceded opinion among all the cultivators of the earth that they do not enjoy the advantages and comforts enjoyed by other classes of society, who never knew what it was to earn their bread by the sweat of the brow. The cotton planter of Mississippi tells us that he cannot support his laborers upon the product of his plantation, because the price of cotton is too low. But would not a more careful management and a more diversified culture obviate his difficulty? He is not required to raise cotton alone—his soil and climate is equally adapted to raising wool—tobacco, also of the finest quality, will grow where cotton will, and no part of the country can excel this section of the Union for raising fruit. The remedy for over-production and low prices of cotton must be a more diversified culture and greater amount of home productions of all the things for which the cotton region is now tributary to the north. We are gratified to learn that the cultivators of sugar do not complain of their present prospects in all the cane-growing region. We do not hear of any extended operation in the manufacture of sugar from cornstalks.

We regret to learn that throughout several of the Southern corn-growing States there is a great failure in the crop, owing to excessive drought, which has prevailed in nearly all parts of the United States during the last summer. For this we cannot suggest any remedy, except that, in all our cultivation, we aim to guard against a state of drought which prevails through all our country, to a far greater extent than the contrary during the crop-growing season. We hear of the same drought prevailing in Ohio to so great a degree that there is not foliage enough to carry the stock through the winter in the northern part of the State. The soil here is a stiff clay, and, from the personal observation of one of the committee during the last summer, he is convinced that the use of the subsoil plough upon this soil would greatly tend to lessen the tendency to loss of crops from drought.

From Maine we hear of an almost total loss of the staple crop of our friends in that cold region of the Union, from that mysterious and very serious disease among the potatoes that has not very inaptly been likened to the cholera in its ravages. It is of the utmost importance that all the information tending to cure this hitherto incurable disease should be concentrated, and for that purpose we recommend that the members of the corresponding committee in the several States which have been appointed at this meeting, communicate with the committee in this city all valuable facts that they can obtain upon this subject.

From the southern part of the wheat-growing region we hear great complaints of the ravages of the weevil. The Convention are anxious to gather information upon this subject. We learn that the destruction of the crop from this cause has been prevented in some regions by mixing about one bushel of lime with one hundred bushels of wheat in the barn, which has to be winnowed out before grinding. Unless some discovery is soon made to obviate the difficulty of the weevil, the cultivation of wheat in the southern parts of Indiana and Illinois, and in all States south of that, must be abandoned.

The most abundant crop of all that we are informed of, during the present year, is that of peaches in the State of Delaware. So great has the crop been that we hear of one individual chartering a large steamboat to take the fruit of his own and son's farms to market.

The production of wheat the past year, generally speaking, has been over an average crop, and of excellent quality.

The crop of corn in the great corn region of the West seems to be very abundant.

We also have evidence before us that tends to show that the culture of silk is now beginning to be adopted in families, where we think it may be profitably confined, while it is abandoned as unprofitable by joint-stock companies.

We are pleased to learn that wool-growing is found to be profitable in all parts of the United States, and that there is an immense field open for the extension of wool-growing upon the great prairies of the West, and that the business would be more profitable even than that of cotton in the Southern States.

But, notwithstanding all the bountiful productions of some crops, there is evidently a general depression of the agricultural class pervading the whole country.

It is one of the objects of this Convention to seek out a way by which the condition and character of the cultivators of the American soil can be elevated and improved; for this purpose we recommend the formation of Farmers' Clubs and largely increased reading of agricultural papers and other valuable publications, which have of late years been so extensively multiplied for the farmer's use. We also recommend most earnestly to all our common as well as high schools to adopt, as an unvarying branch of education, subjects calculated to impress upon the minds of the young the necessity of applying science to the cultivation of the earth; and that it is the original and most honorable as well as the most happy and healthy of all employments. We also recommend that an earnest appeal be made to Congress to adopt the recommendation of our father, (WASHINGTON,) and establish a "Home Department" for the encouragement and support of the agricultural interests of our country. In aid of these views we offer the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the American Institute, by whose

co-operation this Convention was called, be requested to continue their noble efforts in the cause of agricultural improvement, by adopting measures to have this matter brought before the next meeting of Congress.

*Resolved*, That the members of this Convention will look upon it as an act of great respect to this body if the American Institute will again take it upon themselves to publish to the world the proceedings and views of the Convention.

*Resolved*, That the alarming situation of a great part of the world at this time, in consequence of the disease called the rot in potatoes, requires the most active, prompt, and untiring exertions of all the producers of this most important production, to subdue if possible the frightful ravages of this disease, and to prove, by successful experiment, that the country which originally produced this invaluable root, one of the most sustaining sources of subsistence to the population of Europe as well as our own country, can provide a remedy to prevent its extinction.

SOLON ROBINSON,

HENRY MEIGS,

C. C. HAVENS,

} Committee.

### NEW YORK STATE FAIR AT UTICA.

We copy the following account from the Albany Cultivator:—

Compared with the previous year, the show of animals was generally more extensive at Utica. The whole number of horses, cattle, sheep, and swine is stated to have been 683, which are enumerated as follows:—144 horses—viz., 28 stallions, 36 matched horses, 7 geldings, 32 mares and colts:—274 horned cattle, being 48 Durhams, 11 Herefords, 9 Devons, 4 Ayrshires, 21 Natives, 124 oxen, 12 steers, and 8 fat cattle. Sheep, 64 Long-wooled, 112 Middle-wooled, 58 Merinos, 23 Saxons. Swine, of all breeds, 34.

There were many more horses at Utica than at Poughkeepsie, though we think the proportion of fine ones was in favor of Poughkeepsie. The show of Durham cattle did not embrace so many animals of the first quality as were at Poughkeepsie. And in this department we think the show compared less favorably with former ones than in any other respect. It is true there were some fine Durhams at Utica; but with the exception of some half-dozen animals, it would have been an easy matter for many neighborhoods we could mention, to make at any time a better display of this description of stock. In Durham cows and heifers the show was particularly deficient. We mention this not in the spirit of fault-finding, but in the hope of bringing out a better representation another year, which we know the state is abundantly capable of doing. We have not space to particularize, but noticed fine animals in this class from the herds of Messrs. Sherwood, Vail, Prentice, and Bell.

The Herefords were about the same in numbers and quality as at the last year's show. Of the eleven head shown, nine were offered by Mr. Corning of this city, and the other two, offered by Mr. Hyatt of Rochester, were derived from the same stock. The Devons made a very pretty show, and there were among them some fine animals which were much admired. We were pleased to see so many of this breed, and of so good a quality, for it is undoubtedly a race well suited to many sections of the country. In Ayrshires there was no competition—Mr. Bement being allowed to sweep the board in this class. Of grades, there was a long array, and we noticed among them many apparently good and useful animals,—

particularly some Durham and Native heifers offered by Mr. J. B. Nott, and a young cow of the Devon and Native, by Mr. Washbon.

Of Natives we thought the exhibition decidedly inferior to last year. We must confess we think the practice of giving premiums for such stock as most of that which was shown in this class, appears to us as not likely to encourage improvement.

The fat cattle embraced but few animals, but among them were two or three of great excellence, considering the time and opportunity they have had to become fat. The show of working cattle may be said to have been a decided improvement on the last year. There were two teams of ten yoke each offered for premium, one of which was owned by Messrs. Wadsworth, of Genesee, and the other was from various individuals of the town of New Hartford. Several yoke were presented for trial, some of which were excellent cattle and would have done credit to any exhibition in any part of the country—not excepting the far-famed county of Worcester, Massachusetts.

In sheep, the show was upon the whole perhaps equal to last year. In long-wooled breeds the competition was not numerous, but we noticed some fine bucks and ewes. In South Downs the competition was principally between Messrs. McIntyre, Sherwood and Wakeman. Among the Saxons shown were some of very fine fleece, but we were sorry to see the competition in this class so limited. Among the Merinos we observed some good specimens. All those offered from out of the state came from Litchfield county, Connecticut. Messrs. Blakesly, Nettleton, and Atwood, offered excellent Merinos, and Mr. N. B. Smith some fine mixed Merinos and Saxons.

The swine department was not as well filled as last year. We noticed good animals of the Berkshire and Leicester breeds, from Col. Sherwood and Mr. Nichols, and some very pretty pigs of the Suffolk and Middlesex breeds, which were brought from Vermont, owned by Wm. Stickney, Esq., of Boston.

The poultry department was well filled; embracing a numerous display of the various fancy and favorite kinds of geese, ducks, turkeys, barn-door fowls, (hens,) and pigeons. No part of the grand exhibition attracted more attention than this. From morning till night the coops and cages were constantly thronged with men, women, and children.

Much inconvenience was experienced at the plowing match, in consequence of the ground to be plowed being in three separate and detached lots, two of which were nearly a quarter of a mile apart. Sixteen teams, of a pair of horses each, contested for the premiums. The work was generally well done, yet there were a few who considerably excelled the rest. The ground was not of a character to make the smoothest work, especially where the plowing was as deep as required by the committee, that is, seven inches. This was owing to the abundance of small stones with which the plow came in contact towards the bottom of the furrow.

*Stump Machine.*—A machine which excited much attention, was Norcross' Patent Stump Machine, exhibited by E. P. Evans, of Lodi, Cattaraugus county, N. Y. It consisted substantially, of a large tripod frame, surmounted by a cap resembling an inverted potash kettle. Through this cap a large wooden screw passed, and was turned by means of a large lever 15 ft. long, by a horse attached to its outward extremity. The lower end of the screw was fastened by a huge chain to the stump to be extracted.

The horse, walking round, exerted by a combined action of the lever and screw, a force 400 times as great as his own strength, (not estimating friction,) which would withdraw an ordinary stump with great ease. A large and very tough oak tree, three feet in diameter, standing on the show ground, was cut down on the last day of the fair for the trial of this machine. The experiment, which was witnessed by a vast concourse, was unhappily unsuccessful, not apparently from a want of efficiency in the machine, but from the basal frame having been hastily made of *soft wood*, merely for exhibition and not for use, the proprietor not having had sufficient time to procure better. A considerable portion of the stump in question was torn out before the machine gave way. We were assured by different individuals, that from 20 to 50 pine stumps had been extracted with this machine in a day, usually about 25. Its simplicity and cheapness are certainly strong recommendations, a machine with farm right, being only 75 dollars, the actual cost of making being much less.

Nothing of the kind could be more interesting at the next State Fair, than a full practical exhibition of the different stump machines, which have been already in use in this state. This might be effected by offering a suitable and special premium for this purpose; and by the selection of a stumpy field,—or a stumpy field might be easily manufactured for the occasion by cutting down a few trees, of which this country always affords an abundance. Cultivation in a very large portion of this state, perhaps in a large majority of its territory, is greatly impeded by the almost indestructible pine stumps which thickly cover the fields; and it becomes a matter worthy of suggestion to the State Agricultural Society, whether the offer of 40 or 50 dollars as a premium for the best and most useful machine for the removal of these impediments, would not be as useful, as for the same amount in premiums for the best plows, especially as much attention comparatively has been given to the latter, and little to the former.

**HUSSEY'S REAPING MACHINE.**—This most valuable machine was exhibited by Mr. Hussey at the late show at Utica. We have never yet had the pleasure of seeing this implement in operation, but we are acquainted with several farmers who have been in the practice of using them, and without an exception they speak of it in the very highest terms. All represent it as gathering the grain very clean, making a great saving in this particular over any other mode of harvesting. The operation of the machine requires but one man and a boy, in addition to two horses to draw it, and with this force it will cut in the most perfect manner an average of fifteen acres a day. To bind the grain as fast as the machine cuts it, requires generally eight men. The machine has been much simplified in its construction within the last year or two. It is not liable to get out of order, and will often work through the whole season without the knives being sharpened. Mr. Hussey received from the Society a gratuity of \$15, as some compensation for the trouble taken to give the public an opportunity to examine this valuable machine. The price is from \$100 to \$170, according to size and the quantity of work they will perform.

**Yellow Locust.**—If you have but little fencing timber fit for posts on your farm, sow a few pounds of yellow locust seed, and when the plants are two years old they may be transplanted. In twelve years from the time the seed is sown, you may begin to cut them for posts.

The following excellent remarks are from the pen of the Hon. ANDREW STEVENSON, one of the Vice Presidents of the Virginia State Agricultural Society, extracted from a recent letter addressed by him to the Editor of the Farmers' Library, and do honor to his discernment and patriotism:—

Of the importance of Agriculture, in a physical, moral, or political point of view, I need say little to you. If, with the wisest, the richest, and the most powerful nation, Agricultural pursuits have ever been esteemed the most honorable, as well as the most useful employments of man, how much more should this be the case in a country like ours, where the Institutions, Government, and the People, depend so essentially upon their successful operation. Indeed, Providence seems to have decided for us the great question of preference, so long agitated by political economists. We are and must continue, if we expect to remain free and prosperous, emphatically an *Agricultural People*. And does not self-interest, as well as patriotism, combine to stimulate us to the improvement of our system of husbandry? What nation has ever existed celebrated for its advancement in civilization and the arts, in which the marked encouragement of Agriculture has not been admitted? And yet, what country on earth so deeply interested in its success, has shewn less attention to it than our own? The spirit of improvement has not only been suffered to languish, but its essential and vital interests, have been shamefully neglected. Who can witness, my dear sir, without mortification, the stream of emigration from the whole of our Atlantic border to the Western portions of our Union? How many persons now we daily see selling their farms at low prices and relinquishing their birth-places and friends to settle in the rich valleys of the West, from a supposed inability to support themselves on their poor and exhausted lands. Is not this the result of gross mismanagement and a continued perseverance in the old and wretched system of cultivation? How long are we to be doomed to this state of things? And are we never to profit from the experience of other nations? Whilst in Great Britain *nine-tenths* of the lands are leased to tenants who pay from 30 to 60 shillings sterling per acre, and find every thing for husbandry, they can even on these terms grow rich; yet we, (at least at the South,) without tithes or heavy taxation, and with numerous laborers, can barely make out to support ourselves from the products of our estates. I have seen it stated very recently on the authority of some eminent British statist, that to supply the United Kingdom of Great Britain with the article of wheat alone, would take the employment of the whole British Navy; and to bring all their Agricultural Products, as now enjoyed, would take the navy of the whole world. To ascertain this, it would only be necessary to take the average consumption of each inhabitant, and multiply the annual amount by the whole number of the population. England, as you know, has been called a *garden spot*, and such it may be justly regarded, when, with a territory not larger than that of New York or Virginia, it can support a population nearly equal to that of the whole United States. It is alone by skill and industry that they resist the danger of excessive population pressing upon the means of subsistence, and thus enable them to supply an increasing population, not only with the same but a much better description of food from the same districts of country. Now, to what is all this attributed, but to *superior productiveness*, occasioned by *superior cultivation*, and



the additional fact, that they cultivate no more land than they can manure and improve. It was, I think, the late Lord Leicester [Mr. Coke] who once said that the great and prevailing error in English Agriculture was what he called over-ploughing, and having more land under tillage than the quantity of manure would justify. This, I think, is one of the great evils in our system of cultivation. If, on the contrary, we were to limit our tillage to our supply of manure, what an increase of old and exhausted fields should we witness? and yet I am convinced that our planters and farmers would be in much better and more prosperous circumstances. Our rule however, seems to be, that having so many laborers we must necessarily cultivate a great deal of land, whether it is rich or poor. This is one of the errors of our Agriculturists, and it therefore becomes important to convince them that means exist by which their poor lands may be fertilized and rendered profitable at much less expense, and by which their landed property, as well as the comforts of life, might be greatly increased; and that these means are in their own power.

#### NORTHERN AGRICULTURE.

A mercantile friend, who is an *amateur* if not a *connoisseur* in farming, being about to make a Northern tour, we requested him to jot down for the Planter the impressions that he might derive from his observations of Northern farming. Accordingly, we received from him a few days since a letter, from which we make the following extracts:—*Southern Planter*.

SARATOGA, July 24, 1845.

—Monday was an enjoyment to us; Mr. Bement, the landlord of the American Hotel, (Albany) at which we staid, who is also an enthusiastic, as well as a practical and scientific agriculturist, to whom I had a letter of introduction, immediately after breakfast brought out his buggy and drove us to his farm, called "Three Hills Farm," about three and a half miles from the city. It may be considered, I suppose, a premium specimen of a grass, grain and stock farm. The soil by a well conducted system of experimental cultivation, has been made both most agreeable to the eye, and in a high degree productive. It has an extent of only one hundred and eighty acres, which here is considered a large farm: and after seeing one such, you would be satisfied that the radical defect in our agricultural system is the too great extent of land taken into management. Management! To call the slovenly, bungling of Virginia farmers management, contrasted with the exactness and precision of Northern farming, is like calling a regimental militia muster a perfect drill in comparison with the movements of a crack corps.—Every foot of land is made to tell; the fields swell with timothy, red-top, or clover; corn, oats, and potatoes stand with the closeness and stiffness of a canebrake. There are poultry yards and poultry houses, sheep yards and sheep houses, cow yards and cow houses, pig yards and pig houses,—the buildings all framed, shingles, and glass windowed. It is true, Mr. Bement's premises show non-residence of the master spirit; but what is out of order at his, you find in others;—and then the stock! I shall never be able again to behold with patience the dry, crank-sided, bony things that we call cows. Why, sir, it is a delight to look at them here.—They are treated with the delicate attentions of a racer's stable; every one has her particular stall,—every one shows blood-like points prominently and beautifully developed,—eve-

ry one has a coat of deep, soft, rich chesnut, or else an interspersing of mahogany and pure white—and a glossiness like a young girl's well smoothed hair. Their gentleness, their qualities and appearance make them treasures. Mr. Bement, as many others do, employs a farmer to reside on the place and manage for him. He furnishes him a house, and pays two hundred dollars a year, with the use of wood, vegetables and milk for himself and family. Two other men, at a hire of one hundred and twenty dollars and their board, which costs one dollar and seventy-five cents per week, each, constitute his regular force. In addition to which, two men for two or three months during the summer, for haying and harvesting, at twelve dollars per month and their board, are all that he has. So that his whole force for farming and attending to the stock, is three men the year round, and two extra for securing what is made. Such lands as his are worth about eighty dollars per acre; and he is offered seventy dollars per acre for wood, (medium size pine,) which covers about twenty-seven acres. Of hay, which I consider the most valuable crop, the lands will yield about three tons, worth at different seasons from seven to ten dollars; of rye from forty to forty-five bushels; of oats from forty to sixty bushels. I was shown a field on which the grass crop has been doubled by the use of *anthracite ashes*. The stock, however, constitute the pride, and I doubt not the profit of the farm. And it is worth noting that the fancy prices which formerly and lately prevailed, are not now demanded. For instance, Mr. Bement owns a distinguished bull and cow which cost originally in England one thousand dollars for the two; he has, for sale, as noble an animal as you ever beheld, six years old, which he offers at seventy-five dollars. The greatest attention is paid to prevent unintentional crosses—and whenever a calf does not turn out well, or is considered defective in any particular, he is turned over to the butcher, regardless of pedigree. Mr. Bement has made many experiments in crossing,—always, of course, with some particular object in view. As, among his hogs; he aimed at full size, early maturity, easy keep, small bone, lightness of offal, and delicacy of meat. To accomplish which, upon the well known principle in breeding, that like produces like, he took the Improved Chinese, which is very short and fat, with strong hair; the Leicester, which has more length: the Derbyshire, which has still greater length and more weight; and the Neapolitan with no hair, distinguished for the quality of its flesh; out of all which, he has formed what he calls his "Medley Breed," and which he considers superior to any he is acquainted with. In this way he has attained a weight of four hundred pounds, in hogs, of most capacious proportion, comely to behold, perfectly white, and hair of the length and fineness almost of a New Foundland dog—animals which you at once recognize as of high caste. The best weight is the average of from two hundred and fifty to three hundred pounds, which they gain with very little feed. Think of this, in comparison with our runty, twist-tailed, grunting, squeaking mire wallowers! My word for it, our friends, the Hebrews, never would have considered these an "abomination," if such had been known in their early day!

But, again—and it illustrates how admirably Northern farmers combine the great gratifications of comfort and appearance with usefulness—out of a small stream, no whit better for the purpose than you will find on almost every farm in Virginia, Mr. Bement has constructed a lake, not more than two or

three hundred yards from the house, which besides furnishing fish, and affording an agreeable prospect, is made to turn a small water wheel, connected with a pocket edition of a grist mill, where not only the coarse food for the stock is ground, but the coffee for the family; and which, moreover, drives a forcing pump, with a supply of two thousand gallons of water in twenty four hours, through pipes, into a reservoir situated in the yard, at an elevation of fifty-four feet, from which again it is conveyed in pipes to the stables, barn and other out houses.—The whole machinery could not have cost a hundred dollars, and I should estimate it as worth twenty times that sum in real benefit to the owner. The construction of the dam, of course does not enter into my calculation of the cost. The three curious conical hills which give name to the farm, stand near the house; and from them, you look out upon a fine expanse of champagne country, adorned by a beautiful variety of rural scenery, and commanding a view of the famous Hilderberg mountains, as well as the more distant peaks of the Catskill.

Having passed the morning in this agreeable manner, after dinner we were driven by Mr. Bement to his neighbor's on the other side of the city, Mr. Prentice's and Mr. Rathbone's. If in seeing Mr. Bement's I had been pleased with what I considered a happy combination of agricultural skill and ornament, in seeing the others, certainly I was much more so since the proportion of ornament was much greater. Mr. Prentice's, called "Mount Hope," which is the first you come to, and which has a distance of only about a mile and a half from the State House, the centre of the city, is a farm beyond all praise. Enjoying a superb position on the high bank of the Hudson just above Van Rensselaer Island, cultivated with a richness that excites admiration, adorned with costly taste, nothing cramped, all indicating profusion, high keep, and the most graceful control of nature, I know not how to condense any attempt at the description of the place. Without having seen the suburbs of Boston, which you know have much reputation for similar adornment, I thought when I first stood in the hall of Mr. Prentice's house, I had seen no such villa in this country. One not the least gratifying of the evidences of well-chosen expenditure which I saw around me, was the work of a young sculptor by the name of Brown, a native of Albany, who has executed for Mr. Prentice, in marble, four pieces representing the seasons—all indicating, I thought, talent—one of which particularly, accorded with my taste. But here again I must omit description. When we drove to the door, Mr. Prentice was not at home, but upon the touch of a strong bell, soon came up from his hay meadow,—a hale, well-bronzed, active, temperance-looking farmer, certainly not more than seven-and-thirty years old. I asked Mr. Bement how he came by his money. "By steady industry," said he. "I remember him a few years ago, a boy in Albany, peddling fur caps." Unfortunately for us, the large stock of blooded cattle for which this farm has been particularly known, has recently been broken up by public sale. Some of those, however, that were sold, yet remain, and among those reserved, I saw the famous Durham mother of all, "Matilda," and the bulls "Fairfax" and "O'Connell," the former of which has taken the first premium wherever he has been exhibited. An animal of more masterly size, substance and power, you can scarcely conceive of. I know not what to compare him to, except a line of battle-ship. It is the opinion of both

Mr. Bement and Mr. Prentice, that the Ayrshire breed of cattle is better suited to Virginia than the Durham; the one is much lighter than the other, but the quantity of milk is greater in proportion to the amount of food required; although the Ayrshire will give but sixteen quarts in a day. I was pleased to hear that Mr. Haxwell and Mr. Wright, who were lately here, had supplied themselves with a choice selection from both Durham and Ayrshire. After passing through the grounds and stables of Mr. Prentice, he accompanied us to "Kinwood," the residence of Mr. Joel Rathbone, adjoining his own. Here again was an adornment still exceeding what I had before seen. The house is a Gothic cottage, on the plan of one, with the exception of the tower, which I remember to have admired in "Downing's Cottage residences." All the rooms open from a circular hall, and sure I am, I have never entered a house which so completely took captive my fancy. The expenditure is greater, more of ornament is brought together, than at "Mount Hope;" the styles are different, and no doubt the objects contemplated diverse; but, in admirable coincidence of building, furniture, and luxurious finish, I doubt whether you would find in America the superior of "Kinwood." It was a regret to us that the family of Mr. Rathbone were not at home, Mr. Prentice nevertheless, with the confidence of a neighbor, took us through the lower circle of apartments. We had intended a visit to Mr. William H. Sotham's stock, at a farm not far beyond, and which, perhaps equally with any others, are noted for their size, symmetry, pedigree, thrift and productiveness, but evening came on with too fast a pace. From the style of their residences and the description I give, you might conjecture these gentlemen to be *aristocrats*: nothing could be farther from the truth, and I dare say, they would feel offended if the term were applied to them. They show plainly enough, that in putting on the *gentleman* they had no idea of putting by the *workingman*. Among farmers, there are no secrets in business. With a real catholicity of spirit, they impart cheerfully what they know; and if it happens that they meet with one, like myself, who knows nothing, but who yet manifests a disposition to learn, the cheerfulness is increased, and displays itself in a more enthusiastic language, as if the enjoyment of imparting were fresher.

#### A SOUTHERNER AT THE NORTH.

The editor of the "South Carolinian" thus discourses about his visit to Mr. Sotham, an eminent breeder of New York:

A visit to Hereford Hall, near Albany, New York,—Hereford Cattle—Their Handling—The Dray Horse—The advantages of a cross of these races on our blood Horse to make a good breed of Carriage and Hack horses—The Cotswold Sheep, and their fleeces—Ruta-baga Turnips—Their Culture, and probable yield.

My old friend Sotham is still in the land of the living. The Herefords amounting to seventy-eight in number, look finely, notwithstanding the dry weather. You would imagine from the appearance of the pastures, that they could not live, but they are positively in high condition, most of them far better beef than is killed in Albany or New York, and he assures me that they have not had a morsel of feed, except what they get in the pasture. This herd of cattle is the most uniform I ever beheld, red, and with white faces, chins, and belly, which is characteristic of the breed. Their mellowness of touch is extraordinary. Their milking qualities very superior. Mr. S. says

that ten of the cows made over seven pounds of butter in a week each, after having been milked upwards of four months, and at a time when the pasture was not very luxuriant. The steers, eleven in number are exceedingly fine, two of them three years old, are very fair, and I suppose would weigh, from ten to eleven hundred pounds each. They have a very grand appearance—he has not worked them, but they denote every facility for the yoke, activity, with strength and endurance, combined. He has several two year olds fit for the shambles, which is proof of their early maturity. I should say that this breed of cattle could not be excelled for working even, and probably not for all purposes.

The Dray Horse Sampson is looking remarkably well: he has performed his seasonal work profitably, and I have no doubt that his offspring will be a great acquisition to this country. I will write a description of this breed from Sotham's practical knowledge: "The origin of this breed of horses can be traced to Flanders, from whence it was imported to England, and there crossed with descendants of Godolphin Arabian, producing the different kind of horses that now exist there, deriving their names from their breeders or the country in which they are bred.

"The Flemish mare is a large, thick, sturdy, short legged, compact, tame-spirited animal, destined for heavy slow business. Put her to the traces and she will try their value, she will draw at a standing pull many times in succession, always ready at the smack of the whip to do her best. All readers of the turf know the origin of Godolphin, and are aware of his spirit and speed, it is allowed by almost all sporting men that he is the foundation of the best runners. Many speak of the "black mare," and I know there have been many runners from her descent, and that they have proved in some instances excellent four mile horses, and repeat. Now I make the assertion that the black mare is a distant descendant from the Flemish mare. Should it not be so, I should like to see it disproved. But without reference to the origin of either, or quotations from others, I will endeavor to state my own observation and experience. For instance, I have seen a breeder select, say six cart mares of the same color, small heads, long necks, high withers, short backs, round quarters, heavy legs, but light of hair, to cross with the best four mile horse, for the purpose of breeding carriage horses, thinking by this means to obtain the exact stamp, and color to match. But mark his disappointment. The first mare produces a large cart horse, similar to the mare; the second lighter, commonly called a plough horse, or "Suffolk"; the third a carriage horse; the fourth a stager; the fifth a roadster; the sixth a mongrel hunter. One of these would be left entire, whose offspring would be more uncertain.

"There are some rare instances that a mare from this cross would breed a whole family of equal goodness, but breed again from the family and the uncertainty still remains. How this is to be accounted for will take a wiser head than mine to explain; but I see plainly there is no certainty in producing a similar animal to the sire or dam, when the pure blood on each side is observed. And I have also noticed that there is more dependence to be placed on a breeding mare, the nearer she approaches pure blood. I will state a circumstance that came under my own practice. My father kept from one to three brood mares. They were generally hairy-legged animals. To remedy the evil he put them to the "Suffolk," a horse of medium bone, and free from long hair, and

the result from one mare was remarkable; the first colt was a complete cob, and the second a mare resembling her dam. The third a mare, but of a different style than either; her appearance denoted a hunter, and when a yearling I cut off her tail, to prepare her for that purpose, and at five years old she showed as well in the field as the best. I trained her to fencery when young, and she could clear a hedge and ditch or gate, equal to any. Her speed was above mediocrity, when with the "Harriers" (a pack of hounds with which the farmers train their young horse) she could keep as near their tails as necessary, but when brought to the fox hounds her proof was low. When she entered the meeting field, her spirit was high, her appearance grand, her head and tail up; she champed her bit and seemed eager for a gallop. The challenge of the first hound cheered her, she neighed and listened, (good symptoms in a young hunter) and for the first two or three miles she pulled hard, almost carried her weight in her mouth, and for this distance a better hunter never was saddled; but after this a stale fallow would throw her in the rear while crossing, and hang heavy in hand. Her sire and dam were at fault; the plough was intended for their progeny, and the furrowed ground seemed to call her to her right station; but I pressed her onward, out of sight of hounds and almost out of hearing of their musical notes; a few struggles, and at intervals, the shrill voice from the "whippers-in" near halloo directed my course, and I arrived in the death field in time to seek for a "fresh fox." But mark the contrast: no hound could cheer her, her head and tail were down, and my chance for sport was over. My neighbors who had better bred ones laughed, and I could see positively, the different grades, had I not known their pedigrees. The nearer relations to blood, listened for the second challenge, and were equally ready for a second run, while those more closely allied to the Flemish family were out of place; they looked like *ignominy* *dandies in good society*, had better been kept at home; though these horses made excellent leaders and wheelers, and some as high "as gentlemen's carriages." It takes all kinds of men to make a world, and those men want all kinds of horses for their use, therefore between the cart horse and the racer, we can breed such to suit all."

Mr. S. has seven colts of different ages on the farm; 2 two year olds will eclipse their sire, and probably get better stock to suit the public, possessing more activity, and finer bone.

The Cotswold sheep, one hundred and seventy in number, although rather below their ordinary condition, having been pinched from the long drought, looked healthy and have still their symmetry, quality, and heavy fleeces. There is great demand for this kind of wool, the manufacturers of *mouline-de-laines* are willing to give twenty eight cents per pound for it, and they cut from 6 to 7 pounds on an average, if well kept. This breed of sheep would do exceedingly well at the South, and they might be shorn twice a year with us in South-Carolina.

Last season I noticed an excellent crop of Rutabagas grown by Mr. S. This year he has sown sixteen acres, nine of which, notwithstanding the dry season, are very large, there are many of them that will weigh from six to seven pounds now; the tops are not so high as they were last year, but the bottoms to full their size; should the rain come before September, they will certainly produce from twelve to fifteen hundred bushels per acre. This crop is growing on a sandy soil, and has been manured and

ploughed under in the spring, then ploughed again, the seed sown broad-cast, on a fresh furrow. They were hoed by Englishmen, who understood the business thoroughly, and kept free from weeds, leaving them about from eighteen inches to two feet apart.

A man who is in practice of hoeing can do a quarter of an acre per day, if the weeds are not too thick. Mr. S. thinks this is one of the best crops a farmer can grow, for cattle or sheep, and where they can be fed off the ground in the winter (as they can in South Carolina) and their tops would sprout early for the first spring seed. He has a very favorable idea of soiling with millet, Indian corn, and other green crops, favorable to our climate and soil, and believes a system properly pursued, would be highly beneficial for our country. This is enough for one day's observation of Northern Agriculture, and I will close for the nonce.

## THE AMERICAN FARMER.

BALTIMORE, NOVEMBER, 1845.

**ERRATA**—In the letter of Jas. Gowen, esq. of Mt. Airy, to Gen. Richardson, in the first column of 11th page, 23d line from top, for "much" devotedness, read "such"—In the 11th line from bottom, same page and column, for "posterity" read "prosperity"—same page, 3d column, 3d line, omit "the," so as to read "in the name of party"—in same column, 4th line from end of paragraph, after "on his" should be a  $\gamma$ —in the next page, 23 line of first column, omit "the" so as to read "injured by injudicious breeding."

In the article on agricultural improvement, page 130, the name of Rev. John McCloskey was printed "McCoskey."

**FLOUR & GRAIN**—The market has been much excited in consequence of the intelligence from Europe of a demand for our breadstuffs. The latest intelligence of the state of the market will be found on another page.

**GUANO**—It will be seen by the advertisement of Mr. Saml. K. George, on our advertising page, that he has received another cargo of Peruvian Guano, by the Orpheus. Those intending to use it may depend on obtaining the genuine article from Mr. G.

**CG**—We give on another page, an extract from the Albany Cultivator's account of the Fair of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society, held at Utica in Sept. last. There were about 40,000 persons in attendance, and the scene must have been very imposing. The annual Address was delivered by Josiah Quincy, Jr. esq. of Massachusetts, and is pronounced as eminently worthy of the occasion. Our city was not unrepresented at this mighty gathering—and we observe that one of our citizens, Wm. Gilmer, Esq. succeeded in securing the pair of matched or carriage horses which took the first premium. The Cultivator states that more sales of implements and stock were disposed of, than at all previous shows of the society included. Sheep, of both fine and long woolled breeds, were purchased for various sections of the country, from Maine to Mississippi. Cattle to a considerable extent also changed hands, and at fair prices. Our neighbor, Mr. Hussey, exhibited his Reaping Machine at the Fair, for which, it will be seen he was awarded a gratuity. Mr. Hussey's machine attracted much attention also at the National Institute Fair held last month in the city of New York; it was quite a novelty there amidst the various wonderful machines which were presented on the occasion, although the agricultural implement department did not present a very extensive number or variety of articles.

**THE ARMY WORM** has appeared in South Carolina, and also in some parts of N. C., and if the frost on the 16th and 17th ult. has not stopped them, fears for the growing wheat crop were anticipated.

## Maryland Farmers' Club.

At a meeting held at the office of the "American Farmer," on the 18th Sept. agreeably to public notice, JOHN GLENN, Esq., was appointed Chairman, and DANIEL BOWLY, secretary; it was ordered that an adjourned meeting be held for the purpose of completing the organization of the Club.—In accordance therewith, a meeting of all persons interested in Agricultural pursuits, or friendly to the promotion of the interests thereof, are invited to attend a meeting of the Maryland Farmers' Club, to be held at the office in the basement of the dwelling of John Glenn, Esq. in N. Charles, near Fayette st. on Saturday, the 8th Nov. inst. at 12 o'clock, M., when the constitution will be adopted, and officers elected for the ensuing year. A punctual attendance is particularly requested.

By order of JOHN GLENN, Esq. Chairman,

DANIEL BOWLY, Sec'y.

### MARYLAND FARMERS' CLUB.

We feel it to be our duty to direct the attention of our readers to the notice for an adjourned meeting of this association, to be held at Mr. Glenn's. The object is to form such an association as will concentrate the intelligence and practice, give impetus to the zeal and enterprise of Maryland Farmers and Planters, open to those of them who may visit our city, a common platform or rallying point, where friendships may be formed, topics connected with their callings discussed, and where each and all may become familiar with new inventions, discoveries, and whatever else may be of interest for them to know.

With objects thus broad and comprehensive in view, we may be permitted to indulge the hope, that the Farmers and Planters of Maryland, from all parts of our good old commonwealth, will make it a point of duty to attend.

**A MONSTROUS APPLE.**—Mr. S. M. Jackson, near Elk-Ridge, left at our office some days since, two apples of extraordinary size; the one which fell to the lot of the editor was truly mammoth in its dimensions, measuring 16½ inches in circumference, and weighing 1½ lbs. Its form was globular, flat at the top, the eye sunk, color cream, flesh soft, white, mealy, richly flavored, its juice not abundant, but highly aromatic. The gentleman who left them did not leave their name, and all we can say is, that if the tree be a good bearer, no one who has an orchard should consider his selection complete without this, for without exaggeration we can affirm, that we have never seen any apple, though we have seen many large ones, that approximated any thing near its size.

**CHARCOAL FOR WHEAT.**—The Genesee Farmer states that near Sandusky, Ohio, charcoal ground fine, has been applied to wheat lands with signal success. The average yield of four pieces, grown by Mr. Hayward of Buffalo, to which 25 bushels of charcoal per acre had been applied, was 27½ bushels per acre, while on three other pieces without coal, the average yield was only 4½ bushels per acre. Mr. Hayward will apply 10,000 bushels of coal to wheat fields this autumn. He grinds it in a common bark mill used by tanners.



**ETRURIAN WHEAT.**—We have noticed in the *Easton (Md.) Gazette*, a publication signed by W. H. Tilghman, Esq. in which complaint is made of a lot of this wheat obtained from Messrs. Bordley & Cox, of this city, having in it besides white caps, "a variety of spurious grain, darnel or cheat, &c." and a "multiplicity of worms, from an 1-8 to an inch in length, alive and active," &c. We were much surprised to see this announcement, as Mr. Zollickoffer informed us at the time it was first brought to market, that it had been thoroughly cleaned, and had also been passed through the screen, in order to clear it of every impurity. Every parcel of it which came under our notice, appeared unusually clean,—and the character of Mr. Zollickoffer as a farmer and a man, forbids the idea that the wheat could have come from his hands in the state mentioned by Mr. Tilghman. The honorable standing of Messrs. Bordley & Cox as merchants, forbid the supposition that any admixture could have taken place in the wheat whilst under their charge, and there is but little doubt that the impurities spoken of were introduced after it had left their premises, probably by the carelessness of those to whom it had been entrusted. They have, however, deemed it due to themselves and their principal to show by the testimony of other gentlemen of the very highest standing, that parcels of the same lot as that obtained by Mr. Tilghman, were in the best order. We have before us sundry letters to this effect, one from John Tilghman, Esq. of Centreville, who says:

"I was much pleased with the wheat itself, which being free from filth, was as fair a parcel of seed wheat as is ordinarily found on the farms of our best agriculturists. The wheat when received, gave no indication whatever, of the presence of any kind of insect, although after it had been in barrels for two or three weeks, the weevil fly made their appearance, but not in sufficient numbers to materially injure it."

Jas. S. Earle, Esq. of the same place, says:

"I examined it frequently at the time of sowing, and was much pleased with it,—the berry being good, and the parcel freer from darnel and other filth, than the majority of wheat sowed by our most approved farmers. To its being kept in bags, I attribute the fact of its entire freedom from weevil or other insect, with the former of which some that Col. Tilghman got of you at the same time, was, after being in his possession for several weeks, smartly infested. The only objection that could have been urged to it, was, that of some grains cracked in the process of being machined out. This wheat has vegetated well, and is now making a good appearance."

Messrs. Clayton Wright, Jno. McKenny, Judge P. B. Hopper, W. S. Gibson, J. B. Spencer, and Jas. Bordley, all of Centreville, testify to the purity of the seed wheat from the same lot, and their testimony will be published in the *Easton Gazette*, where Mr. Tilghman's communication appeared.

We have deemed it due to the parties concerned to take this notice of the matter.

A letter to the editor from near Westminster, Carroll co. Md. says—"Every thing looks flourishing here since the late rains. The wheat is all up, beautiful indeed—I never knew a more favorable season for germinating seed. The corn crop with us is good, considering the season; I shall make 14 bbls. to the acre on a ten acre lot, and perhaps more—the effects of deep plowing, liming, and close planting."

The same correspondent informs us that he intends preparing for the "Farmer" a communication on the subject of the importance of mechanical knowledge to the farmer, and the ease with which it may be acquired. The communication will be very acceptable.

**THE TOBACCO CROP.**—The *Marlboro' Gazette* of 17th Oct. says—"Last Thursday, Friday and Saturday were very unpropitious days for the tobacco crop—Almost every one had housed their crop, and close, damp and rainy weather at this stage of curing, soon rots it. Friday in particular was most injurious. We have not learned the amount of damage, but it cannot be inconsiderable, judging from the quantity recently carried to the house; hurried there in many instances from a fear of frost."

Fears are entertained that the unfavorable weather for curing the tobacco, in Charles co. and the frosts in St. Mary's, have seriously injured the crop.

**THE POTATO-ROT,** as we noticed in our last, has almost destroyed the crop in the state of Maine, and its effects will be severely felt in other States. We learn by late advices from England, that it is also spreading throughout the continent of Europe, and this calamity, together with the fact that the wheat crop had become defective, had caused large quantities of Rice and bonded grain in England to be taken out of bond and shipped to France, Holland and Belgium.

The appearance of this disease in Europe has drawn the attention of the learned to the subject, and the French government has taken measures for a proper investigation of it. Chs. Morren, Prof. of Agriculture and Rural Economy in the University of Liege, ascribes the disease to a parasite mushroom, extremely thin and prolific, he having closely studied its action. The Washington Intelligencer claims for Mr. Wm. Cammack of that vicinity, as having anticipated the French saven in this discovery, he having mentioned to the editors nearly a year since, that he was convinced the disease arose from a parasitical plant, the roots of which penetrated the potato and caused the mischief complained of—and that evidences of this parasitical destroyer may be perceived by any one who examines a diseased potato after it has been cooked.

¶ We have been favored by Capt. John Creagh of this city with the "Cork Examiner" of the 26th Sept. in which we find a copy of an interesting correspondence upon the Potato disease, extracted from the *Bristol Mercury*, which we have transferred to our pages, and will be found worthy of attention.

**THE CONVENTION OF FARMERS, GARDENERS & SILK GROWERS,** under the auspices of the American Institute, was held during the late Fair, and was well attended—A report from the committee appointed for the purpose, with an Address to the Agriculturists of the U. S., was presented and unanimously adopted—it will be found in the present No. of the *Farmer*, and we would direct the attention of our readers thereto. It was stated by one of the speakers in the Convention, that the Russian emperor has recently opened a correspondence with every farmers' club on the globe,—thus showing the deep interest that monarch feels on the subject of agriculture.

**THE AGRICULTURAL FAIRS** which have been held this Fall, have been unusually successful. It is a gratifying 'sign of the times,' to see the distinguished men of the nation taking an active part in their proceedings. We hope another year will not roll round without a similar exhibition in our vicinity.

The *Marlboro' Gazette* says that the display of fine Cattle at the Prince George's Co. Fair was probably larger than at any former meeting—the editor adds that those of Chs. B. Calvert, esq. was "the observed of all observers," and were indeed surpassingly beautiful." Particular commendation is also given to the Mules of Col. Capron, the Mutton of Thos. Duckett and W. W. Bowie, esqs., the fruit of Dr. Bayne, the vegetables of Messrs. C. B. Calvert, Thos. Duckett, Dr. Bayne, W. W. Bowie and others, and the display of Agricultural Productions and Domestic Manufactures was highly creditable.—Messrs. Sinclair, jr. & Co. and Ezra Whitman, of this city, exhibited a variety of new and useful labor saving machines.—We shall notice more particularly this Fair hereafter.

**AMERICAN CHEESE** is becoming quite in demand in England—in 1843, the importations were but 14,098 cwt. whereas in 1844 it amounted to 53,115—and it is said that if a good article is sent, and a little more coloring given to the cheese, in another year England will use four times the quantity of its previous consumption. American cheese, pronounced equal to the *Stilton*, is furnished at half the price of the latter, in England. 200,000 lbs were sold by one house in New York to supply orders by last steamer.

The Lynchburg Virginian says that a great deal of forward tobacco which had been cut and hung in the open air for the sun-curing process, was injured, and some of it destroyed, by heavy rains on the 10th and 11th Oct.

# NOTICES OF WORKS PERTAINING TO THE SCIENCE OF AGRICULTURE.

TRAVELS IN NORTH AMERICA,—by Charles Lyell, Esq. F. R. S., in the years 1841-2; with Geological Observations, &c.: Third edition—Wiley & Putnam, N. Y., 1845.

It is really a literary treat to cut the pages of a work, written by an Englishman on America, without ever and anon stumbling over some manufactured absurdity, like the gaudy wrapping on a piece of Irish linen, adding to its cost but not to its value.

The ephemeral productions of the last ten or twelve years, and their fabricators, have alike escaped the memory of most sensible men, nor is it our's to "fetch them forth of their hiding places,"—suffice it then, to say, that all educated Englishmen are beginning to discover the knavery of their travelling scribblers; whose extent of information as well as travel, like that of the story writers of Paris, depends upon the number of lines they can eke out, and corresponding pennies they fob.

Mr. Lyell's Geological tour, we trust, is the precursor of a better state of things, in the travelling book way. It emphatically belongs to the scientific agriculturist; hence our pages claim the right to pay a passing tribute to the production of a sensible man, a scientific scholar and travelled gentleman.

We do so with heightened gratification, from the singular fact, that a literary Englishman has at last been to this country, for some other purpose than seeking a field on which to vent his insular spleen. Most Englishmen make much use of what their more lively neighbors have merely named for them, *ennui*; and so chary are they of this imported commodity, that on going abroad, they are as careful to bottle a full supply, as they are to carry London Dock Port, and Particular Madeira to India, which, although unfit for any other clime than that of England, they perforce must descant on all auspicious occasions, whether the champagne of wit sparkle or the icy sherbet shine. No doubt Mr. Lyell could account for this localism on geological principles.

The science of Geology in its chemical affinity, is every day becoming more and more a part of the intelligent agriculturist's study. Does a gentleman wish to locate in a newly settled region which he may not have visited, on referring to its topographical geology, he discovers the stratified formations to be horizontal, which satisfies him the scenery cannot there be picturesque. Does he wish to purchase a farm on a limestone base, a geological chart points out the regions where he may find one. And indeed, certain vegetable productions clearly indicate the nature of the geological strata subjacent.

Upon that "much vexed question," Slavery, as an institution in the abstract, Mr. Lyell's views are singularly correct; while his stay among the Southern Planters, and his opportunities of closest observation, compels him to acknowledge his inability to detect the barbarity so often dwelt upon, or to point out a happier sphere for the African race, in this republic.

We regret exceedingly to have to record an exception to the general dignity of his style, and that even he should have descended to "isms," for the edification of his brother Islanders; while at the same time, we acknowledge with frankness, the word "fix," as a verb, is in very common use even among the most refined in this country. Let us eschew the habit of indulging in the use of unmeaning terms, and weigh rather the etymological sense of the word than its vulgar application.

On the whole we cordially recommend Mr. Lyell's book to the perusal of every farmer, with the "Geology for beginners," by Richardson, as a help; and Roberts' "Dictionary of Geology,"—same publishers. B.

JOHNSTON'S AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY.—"Lectures on the application of Chemistry and Geology to Agriculture"—by Jas. F. W. Johnston, M. A., F. R. S. &c. &c.—Wiley & Putnam, New York.

With few and remote exceptions, no work in English, properly belonging to the class of agricultural literature, has appeared since the single volume of Sir Humphrey Davy, which, although still a standard work, the limited advances then made in the sciences, in their application to agriculture, is necessari-

ly rendered very incomplete, as a text book for the present day.

Johnston's Agricultural Chemistry can be comprehended by any one capable of reading the English language. The work abounds in experimental detail and analytic demonstration—sustaining or disproving, ably, the views of the French school, and of Liebig—and is in fact a review of the ideas generally of such distinguished chemists as Gay Lussac, Bousingsault, Liebig and others.

Many views and theories entertained by these and other writers are explained and rendered available to the farmer, who might labor in vain to plough through the abstruse mass of learning, in the caustic state in which a Liebig presents it. Some manifest errors are detected, such as that Lime hastens decomposition, entertained by even Sir H. Davy; which, as every farmer knows who has limed an acre, is an error. Eggs for instance, submerged in hydrate of lime, or weak lime water, will keep fresh for a year.

Of salt as a manure, long and doubtful has been the learned conflict, but like every other debatable point in the arena of science, apparent opposites are reconcilable, upon calmly comparing data pro and con. The result of our lucubrations array us on the side of Johnston, at the hazard of a charge from Gay Lussac, no less. One failure is longer remembered than an hundred successes; as injury is more tangible than good.

There are various good and sufficient reasons why salt should not act uniformly as an active manure, for a powerful summary of which, we refer to the pages of the work under our brief consideration; we ourselves mentioning but the one which strikes us as the most apposite in this connexion,—that soils which have already, from whatever cause or causes, an abundance of this particular saline combination, or of its constituents, chlorine and soda, in any other combination, will not manifest by any increased yield, the presence of the superabundance of salt present in them,—but that on the contrary, detriment may very reasonably result from repletion.

In fine, we unhesitatingly say, no farmer who can read, should be without a copy of this work, and that the sum of \$1.25 cannot be more safely and permanently invested. B.

COLMAN'S EUROPEAN AGRICULTURE.—We have received the 4th No. of "European Agriculture and Rural Economy, from personal observation, by Henry Colman,"—a work in the course of publication in Boston, by A. D. Phelps, from manuscript furnished by professor Colman, who is now in Britain, engaged in an agricultural tour through England, Ireland, and Scotland, and who intends also to visit the continent of Europe, thence to glean, all that may be valuable to be known by American agriculturists. The work will be completed in 10 numbers, and from the contents of the first four, we have no doubt but that it will form a book replete with practical instruction and statistical facts. The present number contains a fund of information connected with the grain, vegetable, fruit and cattle markets, grain duties, the mode of adjusting labor and wages, descriptions of the dead meat markets, the slaughter houses of London, the customs of the Jews and their mode of slaughtering animals, besides much other information of interest.

Those who are acquainted with the Reports made by professor Colman to the government of Massachusetts, as Agricultural Commissioner upon the agricultural resources of that State, need not be told any thing of his industry, ability, zeal, and truthfulness, as the evidence of each and all of these qualities, is spread on every page of those interesting documents, and have long since rendered his name as familiar as household words to most intelligent husbandmen—and we entertain no doubt, that his present work, when finished, will add greatly to his reputation as a powerful agricultural writer, astute observer, and accurate narrator. Fortunately for professor Colman his works had gone to England before him, and rendered his name almost as familiar there as here; so that, ere he set his foot on his father-land, a hearty welcome and good old English hospitality awaited his arrival, and opened to him facilities of acquiring information which few men could have enjoyed.

Thus eligibly circumstanced, the public had a right to expect that he would be able to make a valuable book, and we are certain that it will be more than gratified. Thus far he has met every expectation, and we trust that he will be brilliantly rewarded for his acceptable labors.

**FARMERS' LIBRARY.**—We have before us the October No. of *Skinner's Farmers' Library*. Its contents are varied, highly instructive, and interesting. It contains a continuation of Thayer's *Principles of Agriculture*, a memoir of professor Liebig, an extract of a letter pointing out the kind of information wanted in the South, Hon. Wm. Carmichael's remedy preventive of the Smut in Wheat, Judge Seabrook's memoir on the Cotton Plant—a most learned paper by the bye—a very full abstract of which we published a year ago; Hon. Wm. L. Goggin's letter on the red land of Virginia, a chapter on soilings, the virtues of liquid manure, description of a new vegetable, and on the Strawberry, a chapter on the principles to be observed in the erection and construction of farm houses, one on the management of Mr. Hammond's farm, another on the atmosphere of stables, together with many others of intrinsic importance—and not the least so, are those which so gracefully flow from the racy and classic pen of the accomplished editor. The mechanical execution of the book is only equalled by the good sense and judgment displayed in the selections and the vast power, and exquisite taste, of the editorials. As it is the intention of the editor, to continue to republish in his journal the standard European works upon Agriculture and its kindred sciences, those who desire to become familiar with the views of the master minds abroad, upon subjects connected with the first and noblest calling of man—and who among husbandmen does not?—should subscribe for Mr. Skinner's Library—a single number is frequently worth a year's subscription to the agriculturist possessing head and heart.

It is published by Greely & McElrath, New York, monthly at \$5 a year.

## BALTIMORE MADE AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENTS.

The junior editor of the *Louisville Journal* was recently in this city, and from a long letter from his graphic pen, published in the last *Louisville Journal*, we make the following extract:

BALTIMORE, September 20, 1845.

I like the aspect of Baltimore better than that of any other large city in the Union. At least, judging from its outside, for I know nothing of its inner life, I should give it the preference as a residence. It has the air of sociability and hospitality, so much so that it might be taken for a Kentucky city. In the evening, in the summer time, the doors and windows are all thrown wide open, and men, women, and children sit out on the door steps and porches, or saunter along the pavements.

Baltimore is ahead of all the other cities in the Union in the manufacture of agricultural implements. She owes this in part to her position, but in some degree to the accident of possessing some mechanics of uncommon ingenuity and enterprise. You find manufactured here hemp and wheat cutters, corn-shellers, cob-crushers, horse-powers, straw-cutters, wheat-fans, wheat-threshers, and meal-grinders of various patterns. Here too is manufactured Page's circular portable saw-mill, undoubtedly the best mill ever invented. They have a mill in the South, known as the wood pecker mill, patented by a man in North Carolina, the saw of which is a blade with a single tooth in each end, and which some people like very much—the blade has a rotary motion. I think Page's mill greatly superior to that. His has a circular saw with many teeth. The gearing is simple.—His horse power is a most excellent one, but the price,

\$200, is high. The price of the mill and all the necessary irons, with a twelve foot carriage, is \$300. Page's corn mill (it has stones) is considered an excellent one. There is a good straw and corn-stalk cutter at Robert Sinclair, Jr. & Co.'s, which works by horse power. This concern manufactures a cheap cast-iron corn-meal mill, which would be valuable where there are no good mills. Page's corn planter is considered the best about Baltimore. It may be used for turnips. There is a seed sower at George, Lapping & Co.'s at Louisville, which I think may be adapted to the sowing of every kind of seed, whether drilled or broad-cast. It is very simple and cheap. A machine to sow grass and hemp seed with perfect regularity would be of great utility, and there is no doubt that the machine at G., L. & Co.'s may be adapted to this purpose.

In the wood work shops at Baltimore, everything, almost, is done by machinery. They have a machine for boring and morticing; a machine for tenons, which does the work as fast as thought and with the most perfect accuracy; and vertical saws of various sizes for ripping and scroll work. All the scroll and crooked sawing of cabinet makers is done by these saws, so well that the veneering goes on without further smoothing. For all bracketed work of houses a similar saw is used, and the saving in all work of this description is immense. They have a very simple and cheap machine to supersede the plane and broad axe in all heavy straight work, and which does the work of several men. R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co. make the beams of their ploughs straight, and they get out their stuff with one of these planing machines. Then they mortice and tenon them by machinery, and rip the timber with a circular saw. All these labour-saving machines and many others may be added to any work-shop at small expense, with a small steam engine. These advantages explain the reason why wood work of almost every description is brought out from the Eastern to the Western States. Work-Shops of this kind in Louisville would be very profitable. There is no place in the Union, not even Baltimore, that possesses greater advantages for the sale of whatever implements or utensils are required by the cotton planter, sugar planter, or farmer. Those in these pursuits in the West and Southwest frequently visit us, and the means of distribution to every point are excellent. But, notwithstanding our advantages in point of materials, carriage, and position, the Eastern States will continue to beat us until we adopt their labour-saving processes. In cheapness of iron work and castings no place can surpass Louisville, but in some other things she is behind. Nowhere are better ploughs made than in Louisville, and nowhere are they sold cheaper, but still they could be made at much less cost by means of some of the machinery I have mentioned. The rail-roads at Baltimore use this machinery in the manufacture of their burthen cars, and in getting out sills, &c.

**WATER FOR CALVES.**—Accident recently taught me what, till then, I did not know, viz: that calves while fed on milk, need free access to water.—I had supposed the milk (consisting of their entire food) was enough without water. But in changing my calves from one pasture to another, they passed a water trough, and drank heartily. I acted on the hint, and have since supplied them, and find they need water as often as older cattle. No day passed without their using more or less. Perhaps every body else knew this; but at least some may be as ignorant as I was, I thought best to speak a kind word for the calves, who cannot speak for themselves.—*Ohio Cultivator*.

## LIGHTNING RODS.

The circumstances under which two buildings at New Haven were lately struck by lightning have excited much curiosity, and have led some persons to doubt the efficacy of lightning rods, seeing that in these instances they did not afford the requisite protection. As was to be expected, the subject has already received the attention of Professors OLMSTEAD and SILLIMAN. The former gentleman, in an article which we find in the New Haven Palladium, says:

"In regard to the dwelling house of Mr. Stillman, which is a building of moderate dimensions, having each of its two chimneys furnished with a conductor, and therefore, to appearance, uncommonly well fortified, I cannot doubt that the cause of failure was that already assigned by my respected colleague, Professor Silliman—namely, the fact that the rods descended into the ground but two or three inches, terminating with a blunt extremity, in dry sand. All the efficacy of a conductor depends upon its furnishing a passage for the lightning to the earth. Were it to terminate at the bottom in a glass bottle the lightning would not touch it. It acts, not by attracting the electric fluid after the manner of a magnet, but by conducting it to the earth; and when the conducting medium is interrupted by the interposition of a non-conductor, a rod of iron loses all its power over a flash of lightning.

"Now, dry sand is almost or quite as bad a conductor of electricity as glass; and, in the present case, the rod was almost as effectually prevented from exerting its proper office, as it would have been had it entered a glass bottle. Some have supposed that the shower which preceded the stroke must have so far moistened the earth as to render it a conductor to the depth of several inches. It must, however, be recollected that previous to the shower the ground was quite dry; that but little rain had fallen previous to the stroke; that when the surface of earth is in a dry, pulverulent state, rain is but slowly absorbed; and, finally, that the roots and grass that lie near the surface of the ground, render its conducting powers much inferior to those of the dense earth at the depth of permanent moisture. Hence all writers on the subject of lightning rods insist upon this point—that the rods must descend to the depth of permanent moisture—as one of cardinal importance. In our dry soil, this depth is not less than from seven to ten feet, and a majority of the causes of the failures that have fallen under my observation, have arisen from a defect in this particular; although I have never before met with so egregious an instance of inattention to this point as the present. I would respectfully suggest that our citizens examine their conductors, and see how far they penetrate the earth, before they confide to them the safety of their families from the attacks of the terrible element. At the same time, it may be well to examine whether their rods are contiguous throughout, since breaks, like the hook-and-eye joints, greatly impair their efficacy; and, finally, to see that the rod ascends above the ridge of the house to a height equal, in every direction, to half the distance that it is required to protect. Thus, a rod ascending ten feet above the ridge, will protect a space all around it of twenty feet, and cannot be relied on to do more than this.

"The safety of Mr. and Mrs. Stillman, who were lodging so near the angle of the house which was so violently assailed, I ascribe to the fact that the bedstead was of hard and dry maple, well varnished, and thus rendered so good a non-conductor as to in-

sulate them, or to cut off their communication with the earth. Had the bedstead been of soft pine and unvarnished, it is not probable that so intense an electric charge would have set off a branch through persons in its way to the earth, unless the floor itself were so bad a conductor as to prevent it. Still, had the bedstead been of iron, and in free communication with the earth, they would probably have sustained no injury, since, in that case, the fluid would have followed the metal rather than the human system, being a better conductor."

The second case, that of the Lancasterian School house, can scarcely be regarded clear to our readers without the accompanying diagram. In this instance although lightning rods were attached to the northern and southern chimneys of the building, the ridge of the house equi-distant between the rods, was struck. Dr. OLMSTEAD thus replies to the question, "Why did not the lightning strike one or the other of the rods, rather than a point in the ridge half way between them?"

"In the first place, the rods were badly terminated at the lower extremity, one ending at the depth of two feet four inches, and the other of only ten inches, the earth being in a very dry state. In the second place, the distance from the summit of the rod to the point assailed is at least twenty-five feet. In the third place, several nails at and near the point A contributed to determine the charge in that direction, while the power of the rods was too feeble to present an antagonistic force of sufficient intensity to divert the charge from its direct course. Had the charge come as near to either of the rods as it did to the point A, it would probably have taken that route; but it preferred, as the medium of least resistance, first to enter the ridge, then to divide into two branches, to follow the nails along the rafters each way to the iron braces, thence to the rods, and finally to the earth.

"On the whole, although there is nothing in these two extraordinary cases which ought to diminish public confidence in the safety of lightning rods, when constructed according to the rules of science, yet there is enough to warn us not to trust to badly constructed rods, and not to employ incompetent artists in putting in new ones."

PROFESSOR HARE, of Philadelphia, has also been attending to the subject in relation to another case of damage by lightning. His letter, which appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer, is in corroboration of the opinions of Professor OLMSTEAD and SILLIMAN with respect to the efficacy of lightning rods, if properly constructed. We give the following extracts from his letter, feeling that the public cannot possess too much information as to the best means of averting so awful a calamity:

"In the Enquirer and National Gazette of the 14th instant it is mentioned that the barn of Mr. Detwiler, near Reading, was struck by lightning while furnished with a lightning rod at the east end of the building. Although I can but ill spare the time, from other objects in which I am engaged, I am led to call attention to the sad consequences of this error of not putting up a conductor intended for the protection of any building against lightning, at the westernmost part, and preferably the northwesternmost end or corner. I am under the impression that all thunder gusts, in this part of the world, come from the westward, and generally from the northwestward. We have storms sometimes from the southeast, accompanied by diffuse electrical flashes, but such genuine



thunder-gusts as produce dangerous discharges of concentrated lightning, agreeably to my observations, come always as above stated. Being consulted about ten days since by the proprietor of a house respecting the proper mode of putting up a lightning rod, I advised that it should be secured to the north-western chimney, so as, while duly pointed, to extend about ten feet above it. Had Mr. Detwiler put up a rod, *well pointed above and terminated below* at the northwestern part of his barn, I am of the opinion it would have been safe; a lightning rod is competent as a conductor of electricity only so far as terminates in contact with a conducting medium capable of diffusing into the earth any electricity which may be presented to it. Unfortunately the conducting power of the soil in which these rods usually terminate, is due only to the moisture which it naturally holds; while, according to Cavendish, the conducting power of water itself is two hundred thousand times less than that of iron. It follows that an iron rod, when terminating in dry earth, is wholly incapacitated from acting as a conductor. It is like a pipe plugged at the lower end. Even when the soil is moist the rod cannot receive more electricity than the soil can carry off from it. Hence, under ordinary circumstances, the competency of lightning rods is dependant on the pointed form given to the upper end, which prevents the electricity from being received above in greater quantity than it can get off through the soil below.

"Lightning rods should always be made, if possible, to terminate in the nearest spring or stream of water, whether at the bottom of a well or the surface of the earth; it being excepted that in cities where there is an extensive ramification of metallic pipes for the conveyance of water or gas, a connexion with such a ramification is to be preferred to any other termination.

"In the case of vessels employed in navigation, where the bottom is coppered, an attachment to the sheathing by solder is the best termination possible; but where there is no sheathing, a sheet or strip of copper so situated as to be always under water may be resorted to.

"From the immense conducting power of the metallic chimney, and the necessary connexion of the machinery with the water in which steamers float, I cannot conceive that they are liable to be injured by the electrical discharges, unless in the form in which they produce tornadoes."

#### RURAL ARCHITECTURE.

We extract from the Correspondence of one of the Editors of the Louisville Journal, travelling in New England, the following notice, effectively descriptive of the character of the improved rural edifices in that country:

"I had a great desire to see the lovely cottages at New Bedford, of which Downing speaks in his Landscape Gardening, but this pleasure I could not enjoy without detaining my companions, and I relinquished it with the less reluctance from having already seen at Boston a number of exquisite rural structures of different styles, built since my visit to Boston in 1843. These are the Italian villa of Theodore Lyman, six or eight miles from Boston, and a group of cottages at Linden Place, near Boston, some in the Italian and others in the English Gothic style, but all differing materially in their details. I wish it were in my power to give your readers some idea of the delightful emotions with which the sight of these exquisite specimens of art filled me. If it were, I

might contribute thus to create a taste in the West for rural architecture, of which, I am sorry to say, it is almost wholly destitute. These buildings are all of wood—their cost ranges from \$2,000 to \$10,000—certainly not more than that of the suburban dwellings of the West generally, and yet they are exceedingly beautiful, perfect gems of architecture, producing an effect infinitely more charming than the most costly Grecian structure. I have seen most of the costly public edifices in this country, but none of them, with the exception of the new Gothic church in Broadway, New York, gave me any thing like the pleasure of the cheapest and simplest of these wooden cottages, where effect depends in no degree upon size, costliness, or material, but wholly upon the magic art.

"I am glad to find that in every quarter of the Eastern and Middle States, the Grecian style of architecture, for dwelling houses, is universally condemned and rejected. Every gentleman of taste here would prefer a tasteful wooden cottage, costing but \$2,000, to Girard College with its thirty two immense Corinthian columns. The Grecian style in domestic architecture is now regarded as vulgar, and no costliness or magnificence can redeem it from the air of inappropriateness and upstart pretension.

Columns and walls, without visible roof or chimneys look very fine in the ruins of Greece and Rome, and can be endured in Legislative halls in America, but in the dwelling house, give us the warm hospitable aspect of the old English cottage, with its steep, projecting, bracketted roof, its sharp gables, its swelling and sociable bag-windows, and its long, conspicuous, ornamented chimney-shafts—a style susceptible of never ending variety of detail. But I must refer the reader to Downing's Rural Architecture, trusting that no one will hereafter build the cheapest cottage without first consulting that work, or getting a design from an architect of taste, one who rejects the Grecian styles, and assuring the reader that, however admirable may appear the designs in Downing, the houses themselves appear infinitely finer. Theodore Lyman's Italian villa looks well in Downing, but the villa itself infinitely surpasses the idea conveyed by the picture. I neglected to mention Bute cottage, which was built, I think, previous to my visit in 1843. It is a small cheap cottage, but it is, to my eye, the most charming of all. I noticed one defect, and that was in the color of the verandah, which is green, and does not harmonize with the other colors of the building. The new cottages are none of them white, but of some quiet, unobtrusive color, drab or light chocolate."

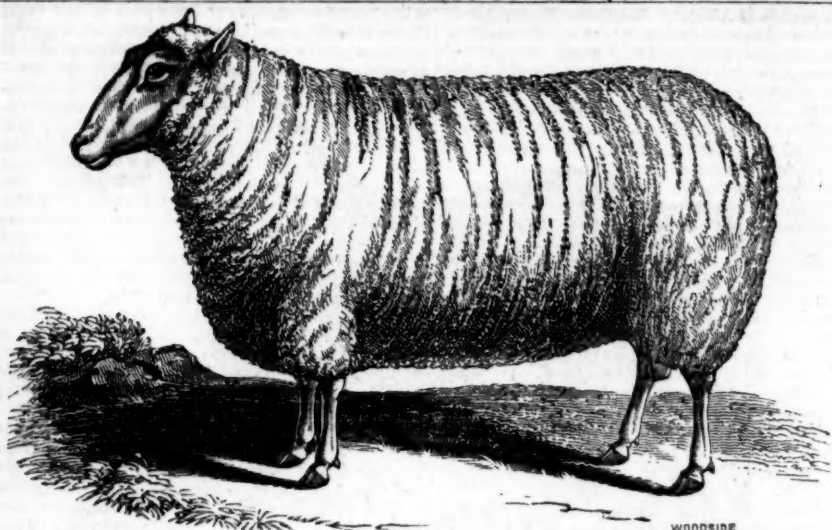
**MANGE.**—This is a cutaneous disease. It is contagious, for in a large flock, if one animal be taken with it, it is seldom any escape.—Its appearance is indicated by a *scurf* on the skin, attended with itching and inflammation, causing an inclination in the animal affected to *rub*. Some contend it is occasioned by a kind of *animalcula* which lodges in the skin, usually attacking those animals that are thin and low in flesh.

In order effectually to cure this troublesome disease, it is necessary in the first place, thoroughly to eradicate the scurf, after which the following application may be made, and repeated every two or three days till the cure is effected.

Spirits of Turpentine  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint,

Sulphur (flowers)  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb.

Train oil sufficient to make the above, when mixed, into a thin paste.



WINDSIDE  
**PORTRAIT OF THE LEICESTER BUCK, "LAMBERT,"**

**THE PROPERTY OF AARON CLEMENT, Esq., OF PHILADELPHIA.**

Lambert was bred by Dr. Huddleson of Delaware County, Pa.—is 3 years old, and weighed in March last, when only in good keeping condition, 250 lbs. He produced at last shearing 10½ lbs. of Wool of superior quality, and length of staple. His grand sire was imported by Mr. James Hickman, of Del. Co., and his dam was from the celebrated flock of the late John Barney of the State of Delaware, whose sheep were so highly celebrated for their fine mutton in the Philadelphia and Baltimore markets.

**BEES.**—We lately noticed at Mr. George Brackett's, Greenland, N. H., an improved mode of keeping bees in garrets or in a small house to each hive. A house was made in one corner of the granary, and on introducing the hive of bees a few years ago, Mr. Brackett suspended it, or fastened it to the wall on the front side, and then took away both top and bottom and the bees extended their operations both ways. When cold weather comes on, the bees retire to the hive and the surplus honey, white and pure, may be taken away, or by being well protected, a person may cut away honey at any time. The bees have built the comb up two feet above the hive. The common method is to let the top remain, and the bees work downward only.—*Boston Cultivator.*

**Pickling Eggs.**—The farmers' dames in some parts of Hampshire, Eng. in their notable endeavors to turn every thing to good account, have acquired much fame for pickling eggs, which, whilst they constitute a somewhat novel feature in the catalogue of condiments, are at the same time particularly relishing. When eggs are plenty, they take from four to six dozen of such as are newly laid, and boil them hard; then, divesting them of the shells, they place them in large-mouthed earthen jars, and pour upon them scalded vinegar, well seasoned with whole pepper, allspice, ginger, and a few cloves of garlic. When the pickle is cold, the jars are closed, and the eggs will be fit for use in a month afterwards. The eggs thus treated, are held in high esteem by all the farm house epicures in that part of England.

**PRESERVATION OF PUMPKINS.**—This Fall let every farmer gather as many of his best matured pumpkins as will suffice to supply his stock with a mess daily through the winter, and deposit them carefully in a close and secure repository, according to the following succinct and definite rules; 1st, lay a stratum of butts of straw from the threshing floor, one foot thick; on this stratum deposit another of pumpkins, and cover them with another layer of straw, and so on to the end of your heap.

In this way pumpkins, may be preserved most of the year, as sweet and fresh as when taken from the field. Try it, friends, and not leave anything to be discovered by accident, as is the case with experiments in agriculture generally.—*Selected.*

#### GRAIN MEASURES.

By a law of Indiana, passed last winter, the weight of a bushel of grain is fixed as follows:

A bushel of merchantable Wheat shall be taken and given in all contracts, at sixty pounds.  
 A bushel of Rye shall consist of fifty-six pounds.  
 A bushel of Corn shall be taken at fifty-six lbs.  
 A bushel of Flax Seed at fifty-six pounds.  
 A standard bushel of merchantable Barley shall consist of forty-eight pounds.  
 A standard bushel of Oats shall consist of thirty-three pounds.

These weights of the respective grains now constitute in Indiana the legal standard bushel; and under a contract to deliver so many bushels of grain the delivery of these weights per bushel will constitute a legal tender.



PORTRAIT OF THE NORMAN HORSE "DILIGENCE,"  
IMPORTED BY EDWARD HARRIS, Esq. OF MOORESTOWN, NEW JERSEY.

Above we give a very spirited cut of the *Norman* horse *Diligence*, imported into this country by Mr. Edward Harris, of Moorestown, New Jersey; and subjoined will be found a very interesting paper communicated to, and published in, the *Farmer's Cabinet* for April 1842, which is not only descriptive of this noble animal, but of the origin and properties of the generous and burthen-enduring race whence he sprang:

"Diligence is of a handsome dapple-gray color, measures 15 hands, and is one of the most perfect animals of the distinguished breed of Normandy horses called *Percheron*. He was chosen as a full-sized specimen of the breed, possessing all the quick action of the smaller horses, in order that his immediate progeny from our light mares might approach nearer the true type of the race. It must be observed, however, that it is more in breadth and size of bone and muscle that he exceeds the standard, than in his height, which is very little above the average. An inspection of the horse will convince any that this race is the origin of the Canadian pony, about whose valuable properties little need be said, as they are well known and highly prized in this section of the country, and still more to the North, where they have undoubtedly, given that stamina and character to the horses of Ver-

mont, New Hampshire, and the Northern section of New York, which makes them so highly valued all over the Union as road horses; while it is a remarkable fact, that in those states where the attention of breeders has been exclusively devoted to the English race-horse, the carriage and the stage-horse is almost universally supplied from the North. It remains, therefore, for breeders to determine whether it is not better to resort to the full sized *Percheron* to cross upon our light and already too highly-bred mares than to use the degenerated Canadian (degenerated in size only, through the rigour of the climate, for it must be admitted that the little animal retains all the spirit and nerve of his ancestors, and lacks strength only in proportion to his size.) My opinion is, that a due portion of the French Blood mixed with the English will produce a stock of horses invaluable, as combining all the properties that are required for quick draught on the road or the farm. I need not assure you, who are acquainted with the success of *Diligence* as a stud-horse in this place, that such too is the opinion of the farmers of New Jersey.

"I have frequently been questioned as to my reasons for selecting this horse for farmers' use in preference to the English draught horse. My reply has always been, that the draught horse of England, whenever brought to this

country, must prove a failure; he wants the go-ahead principle; he cannot move out of a walk, which is saying quite enough for him, without dwelling upon his defects of form, which can only be concealed by loads of fat and not even then, from the eye of the horseman. The true Percheron, or Norman Diligence horse, on the contrary, combines more strength with activity than any other horse I have sat behind. All travellers, on entering France, are struck with the properties of these horses, as displayed in drawing the ponderous machine called a Diligence, by which they are conveyed through the kingdom at the rate fully equal to the average of stage travelling in this country. English horsemen confess that their road horses could not hold out the same pace before the same load.

"The origin of this race, according to French authorities, dates from the occupation of the Netherlands by the Spaniards, who introduced the Andalusian horse, which soon became the favourite stud-horse all over the continent. The Spanish horse is known to spring from the Barb or Arabian, introduced by the Moors on the conquest of that country. All who are conversant with the history of the horse, know that the Andalusian has always been celebrated for his great spirit, combined with extraordinary powers of endurance. The French horse, upon which he was crossed, was the Old Norman draught-horse, which still exists in the country in all its purity, and is perhaps the best of all horses for slow draught.

"The average height of these horses is 16 hands, and they may be described as follows: Head short, wide, and hollow between the eyes; jaws heavy; ears small, and pointed well forwards; neck very short and thick; mane heavy; shoulder well inclined backwards; back extremely short; rump steep; quarters very broad; chest deep and wide; legs very short, particularly from the knee and hock to the fetlock, and thence to the coronet, which is covered with long hair, hiding half the hoof; much hair on the legs; tendons large, and muscles excessively developed."

An English writer in the *British Quarterly Journal of Agriculture*, thus speaks of the Norman horse; he observes, "The horses of Normandy are a capital race for hard work and scanty fare. I have never seen such horses at the collar, under the diligence, the post-carriage, the cumbersome and heavy voiture or cabriolet for one or two horses, or the farm cart. They are enduring and energetic beyond description; with their necks cut to the bone they flinch not; they put forth all their efforts at the voice of the brutal driver, or at the dreaded sound of his never-ceasing whip, they keep their condition when other horses would die of neglect and hard treatment. A better cross for some of our horses cannot be imagined than those of Normandy."

**Feeding Horses on the Road**—Many persons in travelling, feed their horses too much and too often—con-

tinually stuffing them, and allowing them time to rest and digest their food: of course they suffer from overfulness and carrying unnecessary weight. Some make it a rule to bait every 10 miles, which is very inconsistent, as in some cases with a fleet animal, good road, favorable weather and load, this distance may be travelled in one-third the time that it can under unfavorable circumstances as to speed. It would be better to regulate the feeding by time rather than distance.

Mr. S. B. Buckley who made a botanical tour among the Cumberland mountains, says in the *Albany Cultivator*, "four young men came in travellers on horseback, who according to the Southern custom ride all day without stopping to dine or feed their horses. Horses will do well and keep in good condition under such treatment, as I can testify from experience."

Horses should be well fed in the evening and not stuffed too full in the morning, and the travelling should be moderate on starting with a horse having a full stomach. If a horse starts in good condition, and travels rather quick, he can go 25 miles without bating; this is evident when we consider the time necessary to accomplish this space with tolerable speed.

If a horse starts, well fed, in the morning at seven o'clock, he can travel till noon, having a little rest occasionally, without food; or if he have any, a little meal in water, or two quarts of oats, if ground the better, or a little lock of hay may be given instead of meal or oats. At noon the horse should be pretty well fed and rest two hours, then he can travel 4 or 5 hours with very little or no food.

Horses cannot well endure hard travelling on grass; therefore those that are generally kept on grass should be fed on hay the night previous to starting on a journey, or to a hard day's work. In taking horses from grass and feeding on dry fodder and grain, care must be had to their health, as this change is liable to produce constipation of the bowels and cholera, which may be prevented by giving small quantities of wheat bran, or potatoes or other roots. Hay cut tolerably early, or that in which there is a good portion of clover is more laxative and may be a preventive, but it is not so substantial food as well grown hay, or herds grass.—*Boston Cultivator*.

To prepare a horse for hunting, snap a few percussion caps about him, before and behind. By degrees increase the loudness of the report, and in half an hour you can fire a cannon near him.

**To kill Moss on Roofs**—A gentleman in Hadley states that the moss which sometimes attaches to the roof on the north side of buildings, causing a premature decay of the shingles, may be completely removed by a little dry white lead sprinkled near the top of the roof just before a rain. The rain washes it down among the moss, and, as he believes, is poisonous to it, as the moss dies and the roof is cleared. He was first led to make the trial of it from observing that while a considerable quantity of the moss grew upon a particular roof, the part opposite the chimney, which had been painted white, was entirely free from it.—*Amherst Express*.

**Useful if true**—It is said that a spoonful of horse-radish put into a pan of milk will preserve it sweet for several days, either in the open air or in a cellar, while other milk will sour.



## HORTICULTURAL.

Having freely remarked on the work to be done on the farm, we shall pass into

### THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Where, perhaps, we may be able to remind some of our readers of something that has escaped the vigilance of their eyes.

**Beets, Parsnips, Carrots.**—These should be taken up and buried in small parcels, out of doors, or stowed away in the cellar. If in the latter place, care must be taken to exclude the light, and to place a tolerably thick covering of straw over the heaps. When buried out of doors, a covering of earth, fully 10 inches thick, must be placed over each pile, which should be so formed as to throw off the water. Around each pile a *drain* must be made, the more effectually to carry off the water, and prevent the roots from getting wet, as moisture is fatal to their keeping.

**Spinach, Corn-Salat and Winter Cresses.**—Attend to the removal of the weeds, and the thinning out of these vegetables. The earlier these operations are performed the better.

**Asparagus Beds.**—If you have thus far omitted to dress your asparagus beds, you may still do so.

**Small Salading of all kinds** may still be sown, on moderate hot-beds, under frames.

**Cabbages.**—These should be taken up, and stored away, before the frost sets in firmly.

**Celery, Endives.**—Continue during the early part of this month to blanch these vegetables.

**Rhubarb and Sea-Kale.**—The seeds of these should be sown early this month.

**Artichokes.**—So soon as the weather ceases to be mild, winter-dress your artichokes.

**Gooseberries and Currants.**—Prune and plant out these. Cuttings planted now will grow off with the earliest warmth of spring, and succeed well.

**Raspberries.**—So long as the weather remains open, raspberries may be planted out.

**Cabbage Plants.**—If you did not last month plant out the cabbage plants that you intend shall furnish you with early cabbages next summer, do so as early this month as possible, taking care to follow the instructions which we gave last month, as to the mode of preparing the ground and setting out the plants.

### THE ORCHARD.

**Transplanting of Fruit and Ornamental Trees.**—Autumn, so soon as the leaves fall, is, we believe, the best period of the year to set out most fruit and ornamental trees, as before the earth is frozen there will be sufficient time for it to settle, and the transplanted tree will be in a position in spring to yield to the first impetus of vegetation. Too little care, in the general, is paid to the manner of preparing the ground to receive the trees. Our own impression is, that no one should undertake to set out an orchard, without previously having ploughed and subsoiled

the ground. In making the holes for the reception of the trees, they should be made considerably larger than is necessary to accommodate the roots, which should be spread out; all wounded or broken ones being first smoothly cut off. The holes should be made deep, and filled up with a mixture of surface soil and mould and leaves from the woods, to the proper depth to receive the tree, which should not be placed more than an inch lower than it originally stood before removal from the nursery; it should be placed straight in the hole, which should be filled up with a compost composed as above, with the addition of a sprinkling of ashes and lime—the earth to be gently rammed as put in, and the tree be protected by a stake.

**Orchards.**—All trees in orchards which may have *moss* on them, should be scraped so as to be relieved of that excrescence, as a healthful action in the bark cannot go on while it remains. This done, all the trees in the orchard should be painted with a mixture made as follows,—1 part scotch snuff, 1 part flour of sulphur, and 2 parts soft soap, the bodies of the trees to be thus coated from the earth as far upwards as a man can reach.

### STOCK FOR FRUIT TREES.

By PROFESSOR KIRTLAND.

**The Apple.**—As this fruit flourishes so well in our climate, in almost every soil and locality, we have little occasion to cultivate it except as a standard tree. Seedlings of the common kinds furnish stocks that answer every purpose. We have seen a few trees raised by engrafting upon the common wild crab, and have been informed that seedlings from Hughes' Virginia Crab, have been employed for stocks in some parts of the country.

The apple can be dwarfed by engrafting upon suckers of the Paradise-stock. Trees thus raised are rather objects of curiosity than use, and are usually cut off by disease and decay. If it be desirable to dwarf this fruit, it is a better method to employ for stocks, seedlings of the Siberian Crab. Engrafting on these, most of our fine varieties will assume a stunted habit, which if aided by *spur pruning*, judiciously applied, will soon establish a dwarfish character, and they will be at once thrown into a bearing state. After this has been once accomplished, attention to spur pruning annually will continue the habit. The healthy condition of the tree will not be destroyed, while its fruitfulness may be continued for a long time.

The apple will take, by budding or engrafting upon the Pear, Quince, Thorn, Medlar, and other stocks naturally allied to it—but the growth will not usually remain healthy for any considerable time.

**The Pear.**—For extensive orchards, standard pear trees are to be preferred in this country. The best stocks are produced from the seeds of the Button or Chokepear. These small, austere kinds are more prolific in the plump seeds than the finer cultivated varieties; and their seedlings are more healthy and durable. Horticulturists have discovered that it is often advantageous to check the naturally vigorous habit of the Pear, by engrafting it upon some stock that will restrict its growth. This results in producing a dwarf tree, that is prone to form great quantities of fruit-buds at an early age: besides, the quali-

ties of many varieties of the Pear are found to be improved by this change. The Quince and the Thorn are usually employed for this purpose. On the apple it will not be durable.

For gardens, yards, and small enclosures, dwarfs are preferable to standards. It has been supposed by some that this process of dwarfing is a guard against the fire blight; but we place no confidence in it, having seen many dwarf trees destroyed by this malady.

**The Quince.**—From a few limited experiments, we are led to conclude that this fruit is more hardy, durable and productive, if engrafted on the stock of the Thora. The experiment is worthy of further trial.

**The Plum.**—After repeated trials, we are led to prefer seedlings of the common wild plum to all others for stocks. The graft should be inserted either on the root, below the surface of the ground, or on branches of large trees five or six feet from the earth. The wild stock, being less vigorous than the fine varieties, imparts a dwarfish tendency, just sufficient to induce a profuse productiveness of fruit.

The peach is frequently employed as a stock for the plum, but by furnishing the plum with an excess of nutrition, it occasions a luxuriant growth of wood, a predisposition to disease, and little tendency to the formation of fruit-buds.

**The Apricot.**—The same objections are alleged against the peach, as a stock for this fruit. We employ exclusively the wild plum, and with great success. The best method is to whip graft, early in the spring, upon the roots of young seedling plums; and then to set them so deep that one bud only of the graft shall be above the earth. We have made many attempts to raise new varieties, but have rarely been able to extend the life of a seedling Apricot on its own roots, beyond the second or third winter.

**The Peach.**—In some parts of Europe this fruit is propagated on plum stocks, but in this country the plan has not generally succeeded. Last year we saw a vigorous growth of the peach on a plum stock, in the garden of Judge Humphry, at Hudson; but whether it continues in that healthy condition this season, we have not learned. Perhaps if we were to employ some of the more free-growing plum stocks, such as Coe's Golden Drop, or Yellow Egg, the plan would succeed; we prefer its own stock for the peach.

For those who are about to raise stocks for a nursery, we would lay down the following rules:

1st. Be careful that the fruit from which you would save seeds or stones is dead ripe, and that the meats are plump.

2d. That the seeds or stones do not become dry after they have been separated from the pulp.

3d. That they are immediately mixed with moist earth, and put in a shady place, secure from vermin or swine—still so situated that they will be acted on by frost during winter.

4th. That they are sowed out at the earliest approach of spring.

5th. That such of the stones as do not cleave by the frost, be carefully cracked.

6th. That in selecting a location for a seed-bed, you select a rich, sandy or light loam, covered with turf.—*W. R. Hort. Mag.*

**CULTURE OF CABBAGES BY SLIPS.**—The London Gardener's Chronicle gives the following directions: Cut off healthy sprouts close to the stalk of the cabbage; let them lie in a dry, cold place two or three days. Plant, and they require no farther trouble. Valuable sorts may thus be preserved unchanged, and a regular succession obtained throughout the year.

**A CURIOSITY.**—A few years since, we mentioned a curious case which we saw in the orchard of Mr. Isaac Pratt, Prattville, Chelsea. On a Russet apple tree, that had been grafted low in the stock, when small, there was a limb about an inch in diameter, some distance up in the top, that bore Greening apples, both as to appearance and quality. We lately visited the same. Both kinds may be seen at our office.

On another Russet tree, grafted in the same manner, and at the same time, we saw on different limbs sweet apples, which were in form, color, and quality, and time of ripening, distinct from the Russets. While they were hard, flat, rough, dark colored, and green, the sweet apples were soft, long, smooth, light colored, and ripe.

These productions are very singular indeed. We have no doubt that the stock affects the fruit of the scion, and that in one case the Russet scion was set in a Greening stock, and in the other, in a sweet stock. How else can this strange anomaly be accounted for?—*Boston Cult.*

**IRON A REMEDY FOR BLIGHT IN PEAR TREES.**—A correspondent states that he has found iron ore, or cinders of iron, placed around the roots of trees, drives away the insect which deposits the eggs that produce the worm. Having tried this remedy in a sandy soil, and in a stiff soil and in places distant from each other, and having driven off the insect when the trees of others were very much injured or destroyed in the neighborhood, he advises all those who are troubled by these insects, to try the use of iron, rather than be under the necessity of continual topping off the limbs which contain the worm or young insect. He thinks it probable that the iron is unfavorable to the worm, which drops from the branches, and makes its wintering place at the root of the tree, and then the insect avoids an unfavorable place for its young. But whatever may be the theory, it is sufficient that iron has the desired effect.—*London Gardener's Gazette.*

**CULTIVATION OF THE GOOSEBERRY.**—First select a soil, neither stiff clay nor loose sand, but of good, rich, deep mould, in a position where the mid-day sun will never reach. Plant your bushes three feet apart, train them into heads at least two feet from the ground, let the heads be formed nearly round and open. After the head is once formed, attend to the bush, from the time the blossom shows itself until the fruit is ripe, and whenever a branch is pushing forward to make wood, nip the end with the fingers, thus throwing all the juices into the formation of the fruit, beside keeping the bush more open to the air; with the hoe, dig well among their roots, being careful not to break them, but yet to keep the earth loose and moist. As often as once a week, from the time the fruit sets until ripe, water with liquid manure upon the soil, and use the hoe directly after it. In pruning, let it be borne in mind that the Gooseberry produces fruit on the wood not only of the preceding summer's growth, but also on spurs from old wood. Should any appearance of mildew become visible, sprinkle the bushes with weak lime water, and scatter lime and sulphur underneath upon the ground.—*Western Reserve Magazine.*

Bees generally eat more honey than they collect after the first of August. Weigh your hives, and see for yourselves.

## THE POTATO DISEASE.

From the Bristol (England) Mercury, September 20.

The following correspondence has just taken place between Lord Portman, President of the Royal Agricultural Society, and William Herapath, Esq., the eminent analytical chemist of this city, in reference to seed potatoes for 1846. His lordship, in a subsequent letter, requests that the correspondence may be made public, and it has been handed to us by Mr. Herapath for that purpose. The subject is of vital importance, and is worthy of the deepest attention:—

Bryanston, Sep. 13, 1845.

"SIR—I observe in the newspapers that you have directed your attention to the potato disease, and advised as to the use of the starch, &c. As I am specially bound, during this year of my holding the office of President of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, to promote inquiry and to notify observations on subjects relative to the produce of the soil, I trouble you with this letter, and ask, if any method has occurred to you by which the potato may be preserved for the planting of 1846? I have found that potatoes, apparently sound and free from disease, though in a field or garden which has been partially diseased, have after being stored away, shown signs of the disease and have rotted off; and I fear that the greatest quantity of the potatoes will thus perish, and so continue the distress of the poor into another season. I have directed some potatoes to be stored in slacked lime, in the hope that it may preserve them, but have, of course, yet had no time to judge of the effect. I, therefore, ask for your opinion, as one of our most eminent chemists, upon this point, and would ask leave to make known your reply, if you are able to offer an opinion sufficiently explicit to be useful.

"I remain your obedient servant,

"Wm. Herapath, Esq."

"PORTMAN.

"Bristol, Sept. 17, 1845.

"TO LORD PORTMAN, PRESIDENT OF THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

My Lord—In reply to your letter of the 13th inst., I must say that I do not think it would be either safe or prudent to depend upon the infected potatoes of the present season as seed for the next year: as, in all instances, I have found the diseased parts to extend when the potatoes are kept in a damp situation: I should therefore expect that if any diseased seed was kept so dry as not to rot before setting time, yet upon being planted and left in the damp soil, the rotting process would then begin, and the hopes of the husbandman be disappointed. I have no doubt that some potatoes, apparently sound, have (as stated by your lordship) been found to be affected after stowing away; but I do not consider this to have been an origination of it, but merely that which was not noticed when dug has become apparent after storing. When a potato is first affected the diseased parts are scarcely visible, but upon keeping it in a dry place the spots soon become dark and consequently more apparent, but the spots do not extend; if however the tuber has been kept in a damp place, the spots not only extend rapidly over the surface, but penetrate into the interior, and in a short time it will be completely rotten. As far as the slacked lime, which you have used in your potato stores, has a tendency to prevent the tubers from touching each other, or, by its power of absorbing water, of keeping them dry, it will answer a good end; but it must not be expected to have any chemical effect upon the dis-

eased parts or their juices. Anything which, like dry saw-dust or sand would prevent the propagation from one tuber to another, and any substance capable of absorbing the moisture of the air in which the potato is stored, would prevent the extension of the disease in each diseased root. Our best microscopists and cryptogamists are divided in opinion as to whether the cause of the calamity is a fungus or not. After all the examination I have given to the subject, and a careful review of all the evidences brought before me on the two sides, I believe it is; and I am daily confirmed in the opinion originally expressed, that the only advantageous way of treating the diseased potatoes is to obtain from them, by rasping and washing, the starch which they contain—by which process all their nutriment can be retained; and if it is well dried it will keep for any length of time. The operations can be performed in the cottage or manufactory alike, as no apparatus beyond a tin rasp (a nutmeg grater), a tub, and clean water, are required; and I have ascertained that however far the disease might have extended, even if the root is rotten, yet the starch can be separated, and in a state fit to be eaten, if it shall be well washed, as all the bad parts come away with the water, while the great weight of the starch carries it to the bottom of the vessel. If it is required that the fecula should have all the qualities of the best foreign arrow-root, it is only necessary to wash it last in water containing a little chlorine, when it has unrivalled color and quality, and this I can speak of practically, having made many tons of the article. I will only add, that an opinion has been circulated that the disease is owing to the introduction of guano as a manure; this I feel no hesitation in contradicting, as I have seen it in situations where no guano had been used, and in those where every other variety of manure has been resorted to.

"I am, your lordship's most obedient servant,

"WILLIAM HERAPATH."

SOAP SUDS AS A MANURE.—We clip the following from the American Agriculturist, and will add, that from an experience of many years in the use of soap suds on almost all garden vegetables and flowers, we can state that we know of no better manure:

About two months ago I had at my command a tank that received nothing but the suds that came from the laundry: I thought I would try its effects. The first thing I tried it on was hyacinths in pots, and the result was most astonishing. I tried some of Potter's liquid guano at the same time, as an experiment, but found the suds most beneficial. Many persons who saw the hyacinths, said they never saw finer. I used it alternately with pure water. I also tried it with strawberries that were forcing, and tho' the plants were previously very bad ones, the result was very satisfactory. French beans in pots were also a great deal improved by its use, and I think if it were extensively employed it would be found very beneficial to a great many plants. It must be remembered that it was not used fresh from the wash-house, but was allowed to run into the tank, which was always nearly full; by this means it may be used without the least injury to any growing plant requiring such stimulus.—United Gardeners' Jour.

Turnip Fly.—The Western Farmer & Gardener says that repeated and varied experiments have proved, that half an ounce of sulphur mixed with a pound of turnip seed, will completely prevent its ravages.

## LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

### RESTRAINTS—EXERCISE.

We take the following from a Southern paper. Let a word to the wise prove sufficient.

From infancy our girls are waited upon till locomotion becomes painful; they grow up with a fair skin, and from generous feeding are apparently full in development; but there is no muscle, nothing but fat, which the first trials of the physical frame dissipate, and the whole system is collapsed. For the want of exercise in the house and in the open air, added to the infamous and disgusting pressure of the waist and all the vital organs, the secretions are faulty; the skin, instead of being of a firm, velvet-feeling texture, becomes pale and sallow; then come low spirits, peevishness, ennui, disgust.

Nature has decreed that work, health, and happiness, should be closely united. If you want a drink, go to the pump or to the spring and get it; if to bathe, prepare your own bath, or plunge into the running stream; make your own beds, sweep your own rooms, and wash your own clothes; throw away your corsets, and Nature herself will form your bustles; then you will have full chests, glossy hair, rosy complexions, smooth velvet skins, muscular, rounded limbs, graceful tournures, elasticity of person, generous hearts, sweet tempers, good husbands, and long lives of honey-moons.

When we read of the free clothing, the gymnastic exercises, the household duties of the Greeks, we are not surprised at the exquisite loveliness of the marble copies of those most perfect exemplars of Burke's line of beauty. But when, under the Southern system of dress and no exercise, we see great profusion of clothes piled up in rigid opposition to nature's known lines of gradual swell and imperceptible declension and attenuation of limb, we do not fail to remember that the owl, of all birds, having the greatest bulk of feathers, has also the most ragged person; and 'flaccid skins' and 'forked radishes' 'come o'er the spirit of our dream.'

**PLANTS DELETERIOUS IN CONFINED PLACES.**—It is not sufficiently known by the admirers of flowers, that the agreeable perfume they emit, when in full bloom, is decidedly deleterious when diffused through close apartments, producing headache, giddiness, and other affections of the brain.—But it is only in confined rooms that such effects are produced. In the garden, when mingled with a wholesome and exhilarating atmosphere, amidst objects that awaken the most delightful sensations of our nature, those sweets are a part of our gratifications, and health is promoted in consequence of our enjoyment. Who has not felt the excitement of spring? of nature in that delightful season, rising from the lethargy into beauty and vivacity, and spreading the sweets of the primrose and the violet for our gratification? Amidst the beauties of the flower-garden, these pleasures are condensed and refined; and the fragrance there hanging on the wings of the breeze, is not only pleasant but wholesome. Whatever increases our gratifications, so peculiarly unmixed with the bad passions of human nature, surely tend to the improvement of mankind, and to excitement of grateful feelings towards that beneficent Creator who has so bountifully supplied us with these luxuries.—*N. Y. Sun.*

**BUTTER MAKING.**—We find the following communication in the Boston Cultivator:—

Every dairy woman should know, and perhaps does know, that her milk, set for butter making, should be closely watched and skimmed before it begins to sour, and that the latter skimmed cream should lay on the top of the former, and her body of cream should never be stirred till churning time. A layer of sweet cream gently laid upon that before skimmed, twice in a day, keeps it from the hot air, and preserves it from becoming very acid, in the warmest weather, if churning be done once in four days.

Our dairies fare hard, of late, since the daughters forsook them. I use my churn for a cream-pot to save work. Perhaps it is well known that extreme heat melts cream and renders it unfit for butter, and if your readers will have patience I will relate a trifling part of recent experience. Last year the wind deprived us of the shade of a beautiful tree, which protected our dairy-room from the sun. And one day last week when the thermometer stood at ninety-seven, not aware of the extreme heat, I commenced skimming into my churn as usual. The three following days the weather was cooler. When I churned, the three days' cream which lay on the top made fine butter, which (if rightly managed) I will warrant to be pure at the end of dog days.

The one day's cream at the bottom I could not separate from the buttermilk, because it had been melted. If I had stirred the whole together as I skimmed it, I should have lost all my butter; whereas, I lost only one-fourth. If asked why it did not so mingle by churning as to spoil the whole, I answer, I cannot tell. All I can say is that three-fourths of my butter, made very soon, and come from the churn nice, while the remainder was good for nothing.

**EXCELLENT LINIMENT FOR WOUNDS, BRUISES, BROKEN LIMBS, &c.**—As the articles ferment when first mixed, put into a two or three quart vessel, a pint of strong vinegar, a handful of salt, and a table spoonful of salt-petre. After being united, put it into a jug or bottle. In applying the mixture, use friction with the hands, forcibly for rheumatism, and try it. For bruises, sprains and swellings, it is very efficacious. Let every family remember the above recipe.

**Antidotes of Poisons.**—When the poison has been swallowed, ascertain from the patient what the nature of the poison is—if mineral, that is, either corrosive sublimate or arsenic, give a teaspoonful of pearl-ash, or a glass of soap-suds, afterwards give a tea-spoonful of antimonial wine, and plenty of warm water. If vegetable, of oil of vitriol, aqua-fortis, or oxalic acid, give pearl-ash, or chalk, or magnesia, or soap-suds, in plenty of warm water, with a desert spoonful of antimonial wine, or a scruple of simple powder of ipecacuanha. If laudanum, give a tea-spoonful of domestic mustard, and keep the patient walking. If carbonic acid, or fumes of charcoal—open air, keep the body cool; medical aid is required.

**Washington Cake.**—The following recipe for making a delightful cake, we can fully recommend—it derives its name from the fact of its having been a favorite cake on the table of Gen. Washington—but it is known more generally, perhaps, by that of 'Sally Lun':—Take 2 lbs. flour, 1 quart milk, with an ounce of butter heated together; put the milk and butter into the flour when it is lukewarm, add a penny's worth of yeast, three eggs and a tea-spoonful of salt, place it in pans over night, and bake it in the morning, in a quick oven, for three quarters of an hour.



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**Burnt Rhubarb in Diarrhoea.**—It may be useful to know the value of burnt rhubarb in diarrhoea. It has been used with the same pleasing effects for more than 30 years. After one or two doses the pains quickly subside, and the bowels return to their natural state. The dose is from 5 to 10 grains. The manner of preparing it, is to burn rhubarb powder in an iron pot, stirring it until it blackens; then smother it in a covered jar. It loses two-thirds of its weight by incineration. It is nearly tasteless. In no case has it failed where given. It may be given in port wine, milk and water.

**Another cure.**—A certain cure for diarrhoea (says the N. Y. Mechanic) is found in rice water. Boil the rice, take the water, make it palatable with salt, and drink it copiously while warm. We never knew this simple thing to fail.

**Ammonia for stings of bees, serpents, &c.**—The pure uncarbonated aqua ammonia, Professor Silliman says, when applied to the stings of bees, mosquitoes, serpents, &c. produces instant relief. Dr. Church, of Cooperstown says:—A young man in this place had accidentally overset a hive of bees, and before he could escape they had settled in great numbers on different parts of his body and limbs and stung him very severely. It was about half an hour after the accident happened, when he came to my office in a great agony, and he had scarcely time to give an account of it before he fainted. I immediately applied the ammonia to the parts that had been stung, his legs, arms and breast. He directly recovered from his faintness, and experienced no pain or other inconvenience afterwards." The common spirits of hartshorn is, for this purpose, the most available preparation of ammonia.

**Lock-jaw.**—It appears that a remedy for the Lock-jaw has at last been discovered. The Journal of Commerce records a cure by the application of electricity. The patient was a young woman, in whom the disease had been brought on by cold and fatigue, and the jaws had been closed five days. The electric galvanic apparatus was applied to both angles of the jaw, and had not made forty revolutions before the complaint was removed.

**To cure a Burn.**—A lady, a preacher of the society of Friends, in N. York, was so successful in curing burns, that many of the lower class supposed her possessed of the power of working miracles. The following is the recipe for the medicine: Take one oz. beeswax with 4 oz. burgundy pitch, simmered in an earthen vessel together in as much sweet oil as will soften them into the consistency of salve when cool—stir the liquid after taken from the fire till quite cool. Keep it from the air in a tight box or jar. When used, spread it thinly on a cloth and apply it to the part injured. Open the burn with a needle to let out the water till it heals.

**Fine Pickle for Meat.**—Brown sugar, bay salt, common salt, each five pounds; saltpetre one pound; pimento (bruised) five ounces; black pepper (bruised) three ounces; nutmegs (rasped) one ounce; boiling water five gallons. Mix. This not only imparts a fine red color to the meat, but also gives it a most delicious flavor.

**Muffins.**—Take three pints of flour, one pint lukewarm water, one teacupful of baker's yeast, one great spoonful of sugar, one teaspoonful of salt. Make up in the morning for tea or at night for breakfast.

## FAMILY WASHING MACHINE.



To the Editor of the American Farmer :

Sir—Being requested by a friend in Pennsylvania to procure him a Washing Machine of the most approved construction, induced me to examine the various patterns for sale in this city, and after a dutiful search I found an excellent machine, simple and well constructed. Yes, sir, a good and perfect Washing machine; you may doubt the assertion, yet it is a fact notwithstanding.

Knowing as I do the great interest you take in all that concerns the interest of your numerous subscribers, prompts me to advise you to call at Mr. E. Lukens' manufactory, No. 74 Front st. where you will be shewn his machines in operation, and receive the most polite attention. In fifteen minutes I noticed a dozen shirts washed perfectly clean, without 'smashing' a button or tearing the linen; table cloths, sheets, quilts, &c. are washed with the same facility and dispatch. By Mr. Lukens' process of washing, I have no doubt but garments will last twice as long as those washed by the common and tedious hand process. The clothes are not cleansed by rubbing and beating; friction having nothing to do with the process—all the work is done by pressure and action and re-action of water upon them. The cut heading this article will give a tolerable idea of this machine; the handles are elevated and depressed as rapidly as can be done by hand. On large plantations, or where there are large washings, horse power may be applied with a trifling additional expense.

By Mr. Lukens' cards I notice he has three sizes, priced at \$15, 20 and \$25 each. The machine at \$20 I think best suited for families generally. R. S. Jr.

**Pickles.**—Brass vessels, well cleansed, should be used for vessels in the process of pickling, and vinegar should not be allowed to cool in them, otherwise verdigris, an active poison, would be formed therein; no grease should be permitted in the vessels—stone and wood are the only proper materials in which to keep pickles when made. Boil alum and salt in the vinegar, in proportion of half a tea cup of salt and a table spoonful of alum to three gallons of vinegar—All pickles should be stirred up occasionally: when any scum rises, the vinegar needs scalding. Pickles may be spiced or not, at pleasure; and when the vinegar becomes weak from use, it may be thrown away, and fresh vinegar substituted. Good, but not the sharpest vinegar, is the best for pickles.

**Cucumbers** may be salted down like pork, if it is not convenient to pickle them all at once in vinegar—they can then be freshened any time of year afterwards as the family has occasion to provide a new supply of pickles.

## FLORACULTURE.

## FLOWER GARDEN.

*Roots of Tulips, Hyacinths, Anemones and Ranunculus*, should all be planted out as early this month as possible. The earlier they may be planted, the better chance will they have of forming roots, and withstanding the frosts of winter.

*Biennial and Perennial Flower Roots*, of all kinds, may now be planted out.

*Auriculas, Polyanthus, Carnations and Primroses*, in pots, should be now sunk to the rims in garden frames, and protected by covering from cold rains.

*Double Daisies*.—As the hard weather begins to set in, protect them by a covering of mats.

*Tuberose, Jacobas, Lilies, Amaryllises*.—The bulbs of these must now be taken up, and spread on the floor of a dry room, moderately warm.

*Dahlias*.—Take up the bulbs of this beautiful flower, and after separating them from the stalks, bury them in a dry cellar in a covering of dry sand, eight or nine inches deep.

*Flower beds and borders*.—Let these be well weeded and cleaned—then spread a light compost an inch deep over them.

*Newly Planted Trees*.—These should be tied up.

In conclusion, let us indulge the hope, that your labors of the past season may have proved profitable, that you may enjoy health and happiness, and that, in the midst of your temporal and physical blessings, you may find that delight in the acquisition of, and receive those gifts, which conduct the soul in its last moments, into the spiritual world with the assurance of eternal bliss.

## FLOWERS.

Put by thy work, dear mother,

Dear mother come with me,  
For I've found within the garden,  
The beautiful sweet pea!

And rows of stately hollyhock

Down by the garden wall,  
All yellow, white and crimson,  
So many hued and tall.

And bending on their stalks, mother,

Are roses white and red;  
And pale stream'd balsams, all a-blow,  
On every garden bed.

Put up thy work, I pray thee,

And come out mother dear!  
We used to buy these flowers,  
But they are growing here.

Oh, mother! little Amy would

Have loved these flowers to see!  
Dost remember how we tried to get  
For her a pink sweet pea?

Dost remember how she loved

Those rose leaves pale and sore?  
I wish she had but lived to see  
The lovely roses here!

Put up thy work, dear mother,

And wipe those tears away;  
And come into the garden  
Before 'tis set of day.

## MARYLAND SELF SHARPENING PLOUGH.

To the Editor of the American Farmer.

DEAR SIR—We observe in the accompanying communication, from Daniel Bowly, Esqr. a scientific and practical agriculturist, into whose hands we had placed one of our new "Maryland self sharpening Plows" to be fully tested, particularly in regard to its strength, that he remarks, that in the severe trial to which he subjected it, nothing gave way except the cast iron ledge on which the shank of the sword coulter lodges; this was very easily remedied, and has been effectually done—we can therefore recommend the Plow with confidence, as the discriminating mind of Mr. Bowly would have discovered other defects if they existed. It took the premium at the late Fair held at Marlboro'. R. S. Jr. & Co.

FURLEY HALL, BALTO. CO., OCTOBER 14, '45.

Messrs. R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co.

GENTLEMEN:—Your favour of 20th ultimo came duly to hand, accompanying a plough, with the request that I should "give it a trial among some of the roughest land I have;" "we wish its strength fully tested," &c. you continue:—Accordingly I gave orders to the ploughman, but he, not knowing as yet my purpose, looked aghast at so extraordinary an order.

The first "test" was on a springy hill, full of large ledgy stones and covered with a long tough sod—"Break it if you can, Robert," said I, "but don't injure the horses"—yet it came out unscathed, and only just fit for work, which it did admirably; turning a sod furrow up-hill, laying it well down.

The next was in a clay bottom, of which was ploughed with it, about fifteen acres; in this time the point was twice reversed and twice turned over—The work was admirably done, a furrow of fifteen inches turned over flat, ten inches deep—and here I am sorry to record, that Robert decided against my favourite, the one last bought of you, and with which you request "a full comparison," by saying he "must have that plough." "But," said I, "we may break it yet, Robert—let's try it in the maple clearing." So hither we went—Now any one who has ever walked through a maple wood, must have stumbled among the multitude of lateral roots, like coiling serpents, half out of the ground—and tough roots they are too—Well, nothing gave way, except the cast piece against which the cutter lodges, on the beam, and which you will remember, I once took the liberty of calling your attention to; and for which I would suggest, that a wrought, square sided bar, be either inserted in the beam or firmly attached to its side, let in, and fastened with two small bolts, instead of one large one; this, I think, without weakening the beam, will sustain the lever pressure against it.—But this has nothing to do with the merits of the mould-board, point, heel and shares, all of which, I perceive on inspection to be cast except the point; the heel, or land side being in two pieces, either of which I suppose, you can supply separately, at a trifling price.

I think too, the width of the share might be increased to advantage, as the mould-board seems capable of turning any width it will cut.

Perhaps elevating of the beam a little more, would give greater compass to the sliding gauge; although we found no difficulty in regulating it, for almost any depth.

Having been thus candid, at your own request, I beg you will credit my account with the other plough, as my ploughman (a colored man) is absolutely in love with this.

Very respectfully yours,

DANIEL BOWLY.

# IMPORTANT TO GRAIN GROWERS— ADVANCE IN BREAD-STUFFS.

During the past month, considerable excitement has been manifested in the Flour and Grain market. In the early part of the month, the steamship *Great Britain* arrived, bringing unfavorable accounts of the harvest in England and on the Continent, as well of the Grain as of the Potato crop, and that the duties were taken off in some of the ports of the latter—a rise in all descriptions of Breadstuffs was the consequence, and advances of 85 cts. per bbl. on flour and 15 to 20 cts. per bush. on wheat took place. The *Hibernia* arrived on the 19th, bringing advices to the 4th from England, which threw some uncertainty on the extent of the deficit likely to be experienced, and caused a slight decline in prices, tho' dealers were indisposed to make extensive operations, preferring to await the arrival of the next steamer, which would bring dates to the 10th; the last sales of Howard st. flour was \$5a5 12; Md. & Va. red Wheat 103a108c; a few parcels of Penn. red 110a112; white do. for family flour 115a118, none in market on Monday.

The *Great Western* arrived at N. York on Tuesday, with dates to the 10th ult. establishing the fact, that the harvests were short, and that prices had advanced; Wilmer & Smith's *European Times* says, it is "too certain that the total produce of the kingdom must be regarded as short of usual years, and a steady and progressive rise in the value of breadstuffs must be expected. The upward movement may and probably will, from time to time receive checks, but on the whole, Wheat will, we think, advance in price until next spring. After that time much will depend on the then appearance of the crop, the probable extent of the spring shipments from the Baltic, and other causes of which nothing can at present be known."

The general failure of the Potato crop on the Continent is confirmed, but the disease in England had, it is said, nearly disappeared, leaving only a small scab which would not materially injure its properties.

The Cotton market was dull, with a decline of 1d. and advices were anxiously waited for as to the prospect of the crop in the U.S. The decline was occasioned no doubt by the gloom on account of the harvest, as we find that the accounts from the manufacturing districts were, upon the whole, encouraging, and the laboring population well employed.

The demand for Tobacco was light, in England, but prices remained pretty firm. Cheese was in good demand, but no Am. in market. Provisions generally maintained fair prices. The emperor of Russia had advanced 200,000 rubles to the inhabitants of Livonia, to purchase rye seed, their crop having failed.

The markets in Baltimore ranged as follows on Wednesday, after the receipt of the Steamer's news:

City Mills Flour \$5.25, sales; some are asking 5.37; Susquehanna 5.25; Howard st. 5.25 off'd, 5.37a5.50 asked; no sales of Grain. The market is unsettled, and prices will not be fixed till after it is known how the accounts have affected the New York market.

P.S. The N. York mail is in; Flour, Genesee, rose to 5.69a5.75; holders of Southern say they will be governed by Genesee. Wheat 1.25. So'n Corn 66a68.

**NORTH DEVON CATTLE**—The subscriber offers for sale a few BULLS, HEIFERS and CALVES, of pure NORTH DEVON blood, from 6 to 18 months old. They have been bred with great care from the best stock in the country, are handsome animals, of good size, and in fine condition.

Prices from \$30 to \$50. Address or apply to  
JOHN P. E. STANLEY,  
46 S. Calvert st. Baltimore, Md.

Jy.—u

# BALTIMORE MARKET—Oct. 29.

**Cattle**.—The supply of beefs has been large; last week 1670 head were offered at the scales, 300 of which were sent to Philadelphia; 200 remained over, and the balance sold to butchers and packers; this week 1450 were offered, of which 300 remain unsold—prices as ranging from \$1.50 a \$2.50 per 100 lbs. on the hoof, equal to \$3 a 4.75 net—a few extra quality sold at \$2.75—average rate of sales about \$2.12½.—**Beef**, mess, \$10.50 a 11; No. 1, \$8.50 a 9; prime, \$6.75 a 7.—**Pork**, mess, \$13.37½ a 13.50; prime 11.25 a \$11.50.—**Bacon**, Western, shoulders 6½ a 7c; sides 7½ a 7¾; ass'd 7½ a 8; Hams, 8½ a 9½.—**Balto.** cured hams, 9 a 11c; sales generally at the lowest figure;—**Lard**, No. 1 Western, in kegs 8½a8¾; in bbls., 7½ a 8½.—**Whiskey**, in hds. 27, in bbls. 28c. firm.—**Hogs**, the demand brisk, at \$5 a 5.25.—**Cotton**, dull, N. O. 8½c. cash.—**Coffee**, 3000 bags sold last week at 7 to 8 c. mostly 7½ to 7¾c.—**Fish**, herrings, sales at 3.37; mackerel \$13 for No. 1. \$8, for No. 2 and \$5 for No. 3 north.—**Feathers** 25 a 28 a 33 c. for ord., good and prime.—**Clover seed**, sales at \$5.50 a 5.75, prime parcels \$6.—**Flax seed**, sales at \$1.20a 1.25.—**Timothy seed**, \$2.50 a 3 for ord. to prime.—**Hemp**, Ky. dew rotted 4 a 4½c. and water rotted 6 a 7.—**Molasses**, firm, stocks light, N. O. 23 a 24 in hds; 24 a 25 c. in tierces, and 26 a 27 in bbls. Porto Rico 24½ a 25.—**Oil**, linseed 65 a 67.—**Plaster**, 2.75 a 3 per ton.—**Rice**, market bare, last sales \$5.—**Rum**, N. E. 33 c. in bbls.—**Sugar**, dull, stocks light, N. O. 6.50 a 7.75 P. Rico \$7 a 8.05.—**Tobacco**, for a week or two has been dull, the number of purchasers being small, who confine themselves to select parcels of Md. and Ohio, the common sorts are very difficult to sell; inferior and com. Md. \$2 a 3; middling to good \$3 a 5.50, good 6.50 a 7.50, and fine 8 a 14;—Ohio, com. to mid. 3 a 5.50; good 5 a 6; fine red and wrappery 6.50 a 10; fine yellow 7.50, and ex. wrappery 11 a 13: The inspections for the last four weeks were—

	Oct. 3	Oct. 10	Oct. 17	Oct. 24
Maryland	905	1000	736	1257
Ohio	300	876	908	701
Missouri	41	33	0	0
Kentucky	23	26	39	31
Virginia	0	1	0	0

Coupons of Md. state debt, 80a82, sales rapid.

# METEOROLOGICAL TABLE, FOR OCT.

Kept at Schellman Hall, near Sykesville, Carroll co. Md.  
Taken at 6 o'clock, a. m., 2 o'clock, noon, and at 6 o'clock, p. m.

Wind.	Temperature.	Remarks.
1 SW SW SW	65 70 65	Clear
2 W W SW	53 68 63	do
3 NW S S	43 68 63	do
4 SE W W	55 68 60	Cloudy, Clear, Cloudy
5 E W W	63 73 66	Rain, 1 in., Clear
6 NW W W	50 65 55	Clear
7 SE SE S	55 68 64	Cloudy, Rain, 6-10 in. Clear
8 SW SE S	50 60 61	Clear, do 2-10 " "
9 E SW SW	65 75 73	heavy Rain at night, 3-10 in. cly
10 E E E	61 67 75	Fog, Rain [clear]
11 SE NE, NE	65 64 65	Rain
12 SE NW W	67 63 54	Rain, 6 in. water fell Clear
13 W W W	41 62 53	Clear
14 W SW SW	38 64 58	Frost Clear
15 W W W	48 50 45	Clear
16 NW NW W	45 51 45	do
17 W SW SW	39 56 50	Frost Ice Clear
18 SW S SE	35 62 52	Do do do
19 S S S	40 70 66	Fog do do
20 S SE SE	47 67 66	do
21 NE N N	43 45 40	Cloudy, Clear
22 N N N	38 43 40	Frost do
23 W W W	39 55 45	do do
24 NW SW SW	30 65 60	do do
25 W W W	34 59 50	do do
26 SE W W	38 60 50	do do
27 SW SW SW	37 68 56	do do
28 SW SW	44 70	do do

**PERUVIAN GUANO.**—The subscriber offers for sale a portion of the Orpheus' cargo of Peruvian GUANO, just arrived at New York from the Chinchá Islands, in parcels of 5 tons and upwards at \$50 per ton of 2240 lbs.

Purchasers of smaller quantities will be supplied by DAVID C. HARRIS, No. 155, Baltimore street, at the following rates: 3 to 5 tons, \$52.50  
1 to 3 tons, \$54.00  
Under 1 ton  $\frac{3}{4}$  cents per lb.

SAM'L. K. GEORGE,  
Nov. Agent Peruvian Company, No. 4 German st. Baltimore.

**EZRA WHITMAN'S AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE,**  
No. 55 LIGHT STREET, BALTIMORE.

The proprietor of this establishment is the sole agent in the city of Baltimore, for the sale of the following new and valuable improvements, viz:—Whitman's Improved Railway Horsepower and Thrashing Machine.—Frouty & Meara Boston Centre DRAUGHT PLOUGH, and Subsoil do.—Wm. Hovey's Premium STRAW CUTTER—J. T. Grant's Premium FAN-NING MILL.—W. & B. Douglass' premium PUMPS—Jacob Peoyer's MILL for Cutting and Grinding Corn Fodder—Aaron Baker's new patented GATE—And a general assortment of the latest and most approved AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS constantly on hand, and all kinds of REPAIRING DONE at short notice.

Nov.

EZRA WHITMAN, Jr.

**R. SINCLAIR, JR. & CO., HAVE FOR SALE, CYLINDRICAL STRAW CUTTERS,** acknowledged to be the most perfect and durable machine for cutting Straw, Corn Stalks, &c. in the United States—Price \$25, \$35, 40, 45 and \$75 each.—Also several varieties STRAW CUTTERS, from 5, 7, 10, to \$15 each.

R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co. are manufacturing their Improved CORN & COB CRUSHERS and CORN MILLS—admirably adapted for plantation use—price \$30 a 40.

R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co., sole agents for the manufacture and sale of GOLDSBORO'S CORN SHELLER & SHUCKING MACHINE, for horse power—price \$40. Also on hand several sorts most approved HAND SHELLERS, 10 to \$17.

R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co. particularly direct the attention of farmers to their late Improved MARYLAND S. S. FLOWS, which are unrivalled for performance and principle of construction—price 9 to \$14 each.

R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co. direct farmers to their Catalogue for 1845, which contains description and prices for their HORSE POWERS, Thrashing and other AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY—FLOWS, GARDENING and FARMING TOOLS, SEEDS, &c.

ROBERT SINCLAIR, Jr. &amp; CO.

Agricultural Implement Manufacturers and Seedsmen,  
Nov. 62 Light street, Baltimore.

"Spade labour, the perfection of good husbandry."

PULVERIZA-  
TION.DECOMPO-  
SITION.

**EZRA WHITMAN, No. 8 Eutaw street, and No. 55 Light-street,** has been appointed by the patentees, Frouty & Meara, of Boston, sole Agent in Baltimore and parts adjacent for the sale of the Boston Centre-draught Plough, with new gearing, &c.

By this admirable implement, confessedly "the best plough known in this country for beauty of work and pulverizing the soil," the labors of man and team are lessened one-half, while the power and steadiness of draught obtained are so great, that any depth or width of furrow is broken up, pulverized, and carried completely over, so as to bury any quantity of weeds, herbage, or long dung, with perfect ease and facility, and with the precision of the spade.

Prices, from 6 to 13 dollars, with extra point and share. No extra charge for the new gearing. Castings of every size and variety kept constantly on hand. Sep. 11

**JAMES MURRAY'S CORN & COB CRUSHERS.**

These already celebrated machines have obtained the premium by a fair trial against other Crushers exhibited at the fair held at Govanstown, Balt. Co. Md. in Oct. 1843, and the increased demand enables the patentee to give further inducements to purchasers by fitting an extra pair of grinders to each machine without extra charge. Prices \$25, 30, 35, 40, 45.

Also—Small MILLS, which received a certificate of merit, for \$15—I have also superior CUTTING BOXES, such as will bear inspection by either farmers or mechanics. Also, Horse Powers, Mills, Corn Shellers, Mill and Carry-log Screws, small Steam Engines, Turning Lathes, &c. Also, a second hand Steam Engine, 16 horse power, and the works for 2 Saw Mills.

All kinds of Machine, Model or Mill-work built to order, and all mills planned and erected by me, warranted to operate well. Orders can be left with J. F. Callan, Washington, D. C.; S. Sands, Farmer Office; or the subscriber.

Patent Rights for the Corn and Cob Crusher for sale.  
Jy. JAS. MURRAY, Millwright, York near Light st. Balt.

**S. & T. H. HUNT'S BALTIMORE SADDLE, HARNESS & TRUNK MANUFACTORY, WHOLESALE & RETAIL,**  
NO. 167 BALTIMORE STREET, BETWEEN CALVERT AND LIGHT STREETS, nearly Opposite the Museum,

Where Travellers and Merchants can obtain for their own use, or to Sell again, the most approved Iron Frame and Iron bound Riveted TRAVELLING TRUNKS,—made in all their various styles for convenience, durability, &c. Constantly on hand, a general assortment of Patent Improved Saddle, in all their variety. Also, Carriage, Buggy, and other Harness of every description, together with every article in their line of business. 41 Nov. 1

PLOUGHS, PLOUGH CASTINGS, &amp;c.

**J. S. EASTMAN** has on hand a large stock of superior made Ploughs and Plough Castings, Cultivators, Harrows, Horse Powers and Thrashing Machines, Cylindrical Straw Cutters of all sizes of Iron and Wood Frames, Corn and Cob Crushers, &c. &c.—All the above are offered at very Reduced Prices at Wholesale and Retail—Also Landreth's Cabbage and other Garden Seeds suitable for fall sowing. Oct. 1

**LIME—LIME.**—The subscriber is prepared to furnish from his depot at the City Block, Baltimore, ALUM STONE LIME of the purest description, deliverable at any point on the Chesapeake Bay or its tributaries, at such prices as cannot fail to please.

He is also prepared to furnish superior building Lime at 25c. per bushel, in hds., or at \$1 per bbl. E. J. COOPER, July. City Block, Baltimore.

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